

Hafa Adai!

State funeral for Blanco this Thursday. **PAGE 3**

Dinner and gifts for Coast Guard commandant and his group. **PAGE 6**

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TUESDAY AUGUST 3, 2021

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Testing on arrival imposed anew

AT A GLANCE

As of 7:11pm, Aug. 2, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population **71.6%**
Fully Vaccinated: **71.6%**

Days since last community transmission **132**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	27,770
Fully Vaccinated:	25,716
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,321
Fully Vaccinated:	4,056
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	559

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	8,541	23	8,564
Recovered	8,338	14	8,352
Active	46	23	69
Deaths	143	0	143

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	196	0	196
Traced via Travel Screening	159	0	159
Traced via Community Screening	37	0	37
Deaths	2	0	2

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

Effective today, Aug. 3, the CNMI will be reimplementing the rule that requires all arriving travelers to undergo COVID-19 tests, in light of recent guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about the highly infectious delta variant.

Residents urged to wear masks indoors

In a news statement late afternoon yesterday, the Office of the Governor said the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Governor's COV- See **TESTING on Page 4**

FEDERAL MORATORIUM ENDS Evictions expected to spike

By MICHAEL CASEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON (AP)—Evictions, which have mostly been on pause during the pandemic,

are expected to ramp up on Monday after the expiration of a federal moratorium as housing courts take up more cases and tenants are locked out of See **EVICCTIONS on Page 4**



EXCHANGE GIFTS

U.S. Coast Guard commandant Adm. Karl L. Schultz, right, shakes hands with master navigator Mario Benito after gifting him and his two fellow navigators small models of a USCG vessel, the Barque Eagle, at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan last Wednesday. JOSHUA SANTOS

See story on Page 6

IPI resubmits bid for 5-year extension to complete resort

» **'AG's opinion is that Commonwealth Lottery Commission has the authority to review IPI request'**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

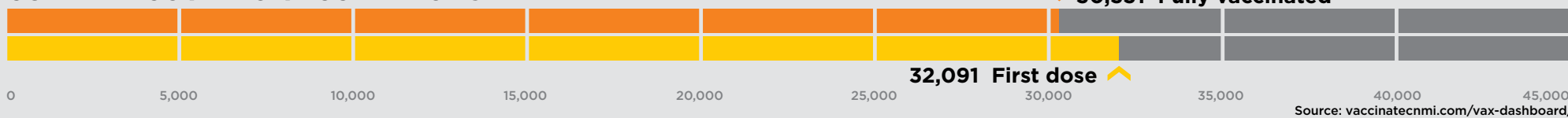
Imperial Pacific International

(CNMI) LLC has resubmitted its request to the Commonwealth Lottery Commission for a five-year extension on

the deadline to finish building its Imperial Pacific Resort project in Garapan.

Tao Xing, IPI senior vice president of Marketing and See **IPI on Page 4**

CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

INSIDE



BUSINESS

After much delay, senators unveiled a nearly \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure package.

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NATION

Dr. Anthony Fauci warns that more "pain and suffering" is on the horizon.

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WORLD

Wildfires raged near Turkey's holiday beach destinations of Antalya and Mugla.

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Local

CNMI House, Senate to hold joint session to honor Blanco

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
 ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
 REPORTER

The Senate and the House of Representatives will hold a joint session tomorrow, Wednesday, to honor the public service and legacy of the late representative Ivan James Alafonso Blanco.

Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) called for the joint session at 10am in the House of Representatives chamber on Capital Hill.

Blanco, 45, passed away last July 23 of massive pulmonary embolism.

Hofschneider and Villagomez said the purpose of the session is to adopt Joint Resolution 22-02, titled "Commending the life and legacy of service of the Honorable Ivan James Alafonso Blanco, member of the 20th, 21st, and 22nd CNMI legislature and expressing its sympathies to his bereaved family."

The resolution was offered by Reps. Joel C. Camacho, Celina R. Babauta, Edwin K. Propst, Christina E. Sablan, Edmund S. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul, and Sens. Vinson F. Sablan and Hofschneider.

The lawmakers said the Legislature finds Blanco worthy of honor and recognition because of his many accomplishments and achievements as a private citizen and public official.

At the session, the Legislature will present a certified original copy of the resolution to Blanco's widow, Carmen Sablan Blanco.

According to the resolution, Blanco was born on Saipan on Nov. 29, 1976, to Juan Diego Camacho Blanco and Rosalinda (Alin) Alafonso, and that he spent his life living on both Saipan and Chuuk.

Affectionately known as Jimbo, he received his college preparatory education from Xavier High School in Chuuk.

Upon graduating in 1994 with honors, he went to college at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska where he graduated in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in Communications and a minor in Business Management.

Blanco began his professional career in 2007, working in the Federated States of Micronesia government as an

auditor for the FSM National Public Auditors Office in Pali-kir, Pohnpei. In 2008, while in service to the FSM Government, Blanco enrolled in the inaugural cohort of the U.S. Interior Department's Executive Leadership Development Program, graduating in 2009.

Blanco's service to the CNMI government began in 2010 when he took the position of director of the Central Statistics Division of the CNMI Department of Commerce. He eventually served as deputy secretary of Commerce in 2012.

He then transferred to the Office of the Governor and served as grants manager for the Office of Grants Management from 2013 to 2015.

In 2014, he became a member of the inaugural cohort of the Marianas Chapter of the Pacific Century Fellows leadership program, graduating in January 2015.

From 2015 to 2017, Blanco served as special assistant for Communications and Protocol for the Office of the Governor.

He began his political career when he was elected to the 20th House of Representatives where he served as chairman of the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, and a member of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

In 2018, he was re-elected into the 21st House where he served as chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, and also became APIL board of directors secretary.

In 2020, Blanco was re-elected into the 22nd House, and served as the House minority leader.

He authored and supported legislation supporting government efficiency, making the Commonwealth more environmentally friendly, improving the CNMI's economic structure, and improving the quality of life for its citizens while also spearheading and contributing to numerous community projects.

In 2016, Blanco and his son Kideichi participated in the XII Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture as members of the CNMI seafaring delegation under the guidance of master navigator Cesario Sewralur, sailing a double hull canoe from Saipan to Guam and back.



Blanco

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Torres says GOP blessed to have Sen. Sablan

» **Governor still mum
whether Sablan will
be his running mate
in 2022 elections**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres said Friday that the CNMI Republican Party is blessed to welcome to its fold Senate floor leader Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan, who is formerly an independent candidate.

When asked during a radio press briefing about Sablan's recent decision to join the GOP, Torres said Sablan has always been a statesman



Sablan

and has done great work in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

"And he's a man with integrity. I mean, there's so many good characters that Sen. Vinnie has. We're very blessed as a party to receive him and to welcome him to the GOP party," the governor said.

Rumors has it that Sablan will be Torres' running mate in the 2022 general elections but Torres remains mum about this.

The governor said he is sure that the senator will do great things for not just the GOP but for the entire Commonwealth. "And so I want to personally thank him for wanting to join the party. And I know and I can speak on behalf of the GOP that we've always had a good working relationship," he said.

Torres said he would imagine that he will have an even better working relationship with Sablan in the years ahead.

Last Wednesday, the Republican Party announced that Sablan has been accepted to become a member of the longest serving party in the CNMI.

CNMI GOP president James Ada said that Sablan has shown throughout his years of service in both the House and the Senate an interest and skill in successfully reaching across party lines, establishing proactive relationships built on common goals, and seeking policies that will benefit the lives of all those who call the CNMI home.

Aside from serving as Senate floor leader, Sablan chairs the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation. He previously served as a representative of Precinct 4 for two terms.

State funeral for Blanco this Thursday

» **Govt non-critical employees attending funeral services will be granted administrative leave**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI government will be holding a state funeral this Thursday for the late representative Ivan James Alafanso Blanco at the Gov. Pedro P.

Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, starting at 9am.

In line with this, non-critical government employees who will be attending the state funeral services will be authorized to file for administrative leave on Thursday, from

7:30am to 11:30am.

In his memorandum addressed to all department and activity heads yesterday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said sign sheets will be present on site for government employees in attendance at the funeral service. Ad-

ministrative leave will only be granted to employees that will be attending the funeral.

Torres advised all department and activity heads to be in formal attire: men in suit and tie, and women in formal dress.

The governor thanked the

community for their kindness and support of the Blanco family during this emotional time.

"We ask for your continued support this week as the CNMI bids farewell to one of its public servants, Rep. Ivan James Alafanso Blanco," Torres said.

PSS on COVID-19 vaccinations: Communication is key

By **JOSHUA SANTOS**
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Some parents of Public School System students are hesitant to allow their children to receive a COVID-19 vaccine due to concerns over the vaccines' newness, its contents, and the possible side effects.

This was just one of the findings in a recent survey that PSS put out, called "COVID-19 Vaccination Parent Survey," where they tried to identify the factors behind the vaccine hesitancy of some parents and how to address these issues as PSS prepares

to start a new school year with more in-person classes.

To alleviate some of these concerns, Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred B. Ada said that "communication is key."

The survey's findings, as well as PSS leadership's thoughts on the matter of parents' concerns with COVID-19 vaccines, were some of the many topics during PSS' guest appearance on radio last week.

According to Dr. Bonnie Pangelinan—whom Ada described as PSS' liaison to the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force—a total of 799 parents

completed the survey, with respondents ranging from parents of students participating in the Early Head Start Program, all the way to parents of incoming high school seniors.

For Pangelinan, she sees the need for PSS to fine-tune its approach to get concerned parents on board with vaccinations. "Building upon the input that they gave us, we need to share the benefits of the vaccine and the research that has been done," said Pangelinan.

When asked what needs to be done moving forward, Ada said that "communica-

tion is key to try to get out to the community and share the scientific evidence of our situation." In line with this goal, Ada said that one approach that PSS is trying out is communicating in the native languages of the top five ethnicities that make up PSS' student population. Currently, Chamorros, Filipinos, Carolinians, Chuukese, and Chinese students make up a majority of PSS' overall student body. Shortly after Ada's remarks, a mix of PSS leaders and students from these five ethnic groups spoke in their native

languages to urge their peers that have not yet received a COVID-19 vaccine to consider having it.

Pangelinan assured that parents who are concerned with the vaccines are being seen and heard. "We hear you. ...This is an invitation to get vaccinated, never a demand, and we will be there to help allay your concerns and answer [any] questions," said Pangelinan.

PSS earlier said that COVID-19 vaccinations ahead of the upcoming school year are not required, but are highly encouraged.



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Investigation on Marpi hit-and-run enters Day 6

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The investigation to uncover what happened on the night of July 27 in the fatal hit-and-run that claimed the life of a 20-year-old woman entered Day 6 yesterday with the Department of Public Safety not reporting any progress yet.

Six days since the fatal hit-and-run, DPS spokesperson Dre Pangelinan said the case is still under investiga-

tion and could not confirm whether there is a suspect or not.

As of Sunday, Pangelinan said the driver has yet to turn himself in, contrary to news circulating in the internet.

Family and friends of the deceased have identified the victim in several social media channels as Sophia Patricia Aldan Demapan. Demapan's loved ones have launched a *JusticeForSophia* movement on various social media platforms to raise

awareness about the accident in hopes of getting the answers they are searching for.

In support of the movement, many have also gone up to the scene of the accident to place candles and flowers on the spot where the victim's body had been found.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the victim's body was found by a person who was driving home at around 9pm last Tuesday and noticed a body on the shoulder of Route

30 in Marpi. The caller immediately stopped to help and called the police for assistance.

At the scene, police noticed tire marks near where they found the unresponsive female. Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services responders saw multiple

lacerations and deformities on the female's body. In addition, the officers also noticed that she sustained multiple fractures and severe injuries to her head.

They transported the woman to the Commonwealth Health Center where she was pronounced dead at 1am.

Public warned of high surf, rip currents

A high surf advisory will be in effect from 6am today, Tuesday, to 6am tomorrow, Wednesday, while a high rip current risk will be in effect from 6am today to 6am tomorrow.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, large breaking waves of seven to nine feet are expected and dangerous rip currents expected along west facing reefs on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 6am Wednesday.

These conditions will create dangerous swimming and surfing conditions and localized beach erosion. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from shore into deeper water.

The public, beachgoers, and mariners are advised to continue to exercise precautionary measures when entering the water. Avoid venturing out toward west facing reefs. Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due to dangerous surf conditions. **(PR)**

EVICCTIONS

From Page 1

their homes.

Housing advocates fear the end of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention moratorium could result in millions of people being evicted in the coming weeks. But most expect an uptick in filings in the coming days rather than a wave of evictions.

The Biden administration announced Thursday it will allow a nationwide ban to expire. It argued that its hands are tied after the U.S. Supreme Court signaled the moratorium would only be extended until the end of the month.

House lawmakers on Friday attempted but, ultimately failed, to pass a bill to extend the moratorium even for a few months. Some Democratic lawmakers had wanted it extended until the end of the year.

"Struggling renters are now facing a health crisis and an eviction crisis," said Alicia Mazzara, a senior research analyst at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

"Without the CDC's moratorium,

millions of people are at risk of being evicted or becoming homeless, increasing their exposure to COVID just as cases are rising across the country. The effects will fall heavily on people of color, particularly Black and Latino communities, who face greater risk of eviction and more barriers to vaccination."

More than 15 million people live in households that owe as much as \$20 billion to their landlords, according to the Aspen Institute. As of July 5, roughly 3.6 million people in the U.S. said they faced eviction in the next two months, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey.

Parts of the South and other regions with weaker tenant protections will likely see the largest spikes and communities of color where vaccination rates are sometimes lower will be hit hardest. But advocates say this crisis is likely to have a wider impact than pre-pandemic evictions.

The Biden administration had hoped that historic amounts of rental assistance allocated by Congress in December and March would help avert an eviction crisis. But the dis-

tribution has been painfully slow. So far, only about \$3 billion of the first tranche of \$25 billion has been distributed through June by states and localities. Another \$21.5 billion will go to the states.

Ashley Phonsyry, 22, who will be in court Thursday for an eviction hearing after falling several thousands dollars behind on her Fayetteville, Arkansas, two-bedroom apartment, said her landlord has refused to take rental assistance. She left her job after being hurt in a domestic violence incident and suffering from depression and anxiety. The eviction hearing is a day after her domestic violence case goes to court.

"It frustrates me and scares me," she said of being evicted. "I'm trying so hard to make it right and it doesn't seem like it's enough."

Around the country, courts, legal advocates and law enforcement agencies are gearing up for evictions to return to pre-pandemic levels, a time when 3.7 million people were displaced from their homes every year, or seven every minute, according to the Eviction Lab at Princeton University.

TESTING

From Page 1

ID-19 Task Force are implementing on-arrival PCR screening tests for all inbound travelers.

"CHCC and our COVID-19 Task Force are carefully monitoring the COVID-19 delta variant and its threat to the CNMI," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. "While we have not had a reported case of the delta variant on our islands yet, we continue to screen inbound passengers in order to protect our people, which we have successfully done. We continue to encourage our community to get vaccinated and wear masks indoors and in public places."

The statement quotes CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muña as saying that the COVID-19 delta variant's increased transmissibility underscores the need to screen inbound travelers on arrival and for residents to continue practicing the 3 Ws (wear a mask, wash your hands, watch your distance).

"But the best tool against this pandemic is the COVID-19 vaccination. If you are eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine, get vaccinated to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community," she added.

CHCC is urging CNMI residents to continue practicing the 3 Ws, especially wearing masks indoors and

around individuals whose vaccination status is unknown. Wearing a mask and getting vaccinated against COVID-19 are the best steps to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Fully vaccinated travelers are able to quarantine with "restriction of movement," or ROM, in the lodging of their choice after being verified for completing their COVID-19 vaccination ("vax verified") and passing a lodging or household assessment. After notification of a negative result from arrival testing, "vax verified" travelers will have a modified ROM, which permits work and essential movement only with strict adherence to practicing the 3 Ws (wearing a mask in all public spaces) until they test negative on their fifth-day test.

CHCC and the COVID-19 Task Force can further modify ROM, depending on the ability to maintain social distancing inside the workplace, on the exposure risk to an identified positive case, or as deemed necessary.

A total of 2,296 travelers were tested on arrival since the start of the "vax verified" release program. Of this number, three tested positive on Day 5 and were asymptomatic. Contact tracing yielded two persons who were deemed high risk contacts, but tested negative for COVID-19 and were asymptomatic.

The six positive cases announced on Aug. 1 did not report any COVID-19 vaccination. They were

tested on arrival and have since been quarantined.

Getting vaccinated prevents severe illness, hospitalization, and death. Consider registering for COVID-19 vaccinations at www.vaccinatecnmi.com, call 682-SHOT, or walk in to any vaccination outreach site.

All travelers are required to show up for their scheduled fifth-day test. Should any individual test positive during any test, they will be isolated at the government quarantine facility.

The CNMI is reminded to watch out for misinformation and to follow updates directly from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and the CHCC. The spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself.

If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please contact the CHCC Tele-Triage hotline at (670) 233-2067. The hotline runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For comments, concerns, and inquiries, call the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force hotline at (670) 287-0046/0489/1089, or email travel@vaccinatecnmi.com. The hotline runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Updates from the COVID-19 Task Force and the CHCC can be found on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts @governorcnmi and @cnmichcc, as well as through CNMI media partners. **(PR)**

IPI

From Page 1

Public Affairs, disclosed at the Commonwealth Casino Commission board's meeting last Thursday that they are still waiting for a response from the Commonwealth Lottery Commission about this extension request.

Amendment 6 of the Casino License Agreement had set Feb. 28, 2021, as the deadline for IPI to complete building the casino/resort project. IPI failed to meet that deadline.

IPI chief executive officer Ray N. Yumul informed the Legislature last February that IPI will not be able to meet the Feb. 28, 2021, deadline and requests that an extension of five years (Feb. 28, 2026) be granted to complete the construction of the initial gaming facility.

Xing told the CCC board Thursday that they submitted last Jan. 26 a request to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to grant them the five-year extension to finish the project. Xing said Torres then asked Attorney General Edward Manibusan to issue an opinion on which governing body should review the request. He said Manibusan issued an opinion last June 25 stating that CLC is still the governing body that has jurisdiction over IPI's request. In light of this, Xing said they resubmitted their request to the CLC chairman last July 8.

"So right now, we're waiting for their response," Xing said.

CCC counsel Michael Ernest affirmed that he has seen a copy of the AG's opinion and that he has a letter from Torres to IPI that gives reference to it but he does not feel comfortable discussing it beyond what he already has.

"I don't think we generally release the opinions without the permission of the client. In this case, the client would be the Office of the Governor," he said.

Ernest said his understanding was that the AG felt that, while it was clear that the Legislature set going forward that CCC shall issue new casino licenses, it wasn't made clear that the CCC was to have any authority to amend the current casino license.

"And that's very broad strokes.

And I don't want to be pinned down on that," he said.

Ernest said they need to talk to the Office of the Governor for formal release of the AG's opinion.

He said his understanding was that the legislative scheme as presently exists by the enactment of Public Law 2021-38 did not conclusively state that CCC should have authority to oversee CLA amendments.

CCC chair Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero said the CLA specifies that the governor has the authority to deal with the terms and conditions of the casino license agreement. Since the members of CLC report directly to the governor, DeLeon Guerrero said it makes sense for Torres to utilize the existing law recognition mechanism in order for him to proceed forward in making any amendments, rather than his office alone acting on it.

Ernest said he believes the CLA explicitly states that the governor shall be the one to amend it. "It has always been our position and that's why our advice has always been no matter who does the negotiating, that both the Lottery Commission and the governor sign it," he said.

Ernest said his advice is still to have the governor sign the amendment as well.

DeLeon Guerrero said if IPI's extension request will be on the agenda of the CLC's next meeting, the CCC should sit in and hear out the request because this is a substantial amount of request.

DeLeon Guerrero asked Ernest if CLC grants IPI's request will that have any material impact on CCC's pending litigation in the consolidated cases against IPI.

Ernest said the question should be directed to the board's counsel, John P. Lowrey. Generally, however, he said he can say that no one can answer at this time because no one knows what CLC is considering doing.

"All I can do is point out that in the last licensing agreement, the Lottery Commission regarding the community benefit fund payment, explicitly went out of its way to say that it wasn't affecting the ongoing litigation before the CCC," he said.

Ernest also added that there is no enforcement action right now against IPI regarding the completion date.

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Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, sixth from left, joins U.S. Coast Guard commandant Adm. Karl L. Schultz, second from right, in a group photo after last Wednesday's dinner and gift exchange at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan. JOSHUA SANTOS

Dinner and gifts for Coast Guard commandant and his group

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Office of the Governor hosted a reception dinner for U.S. Coast Guard commandant Adm. Karl L. Schultz and his group last

Wednesday at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan, which featured an exchange of gifts between USCG officials and the CNMI leadership.

The reception was also graced by the presence of Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, the

CNMI's master navigators, and representatives of the Carolinian Affairs Office, while Schultz's group included his military aide, Lt. Commander Christine Torres Igisomar, who is the highest-ranking Chamorro woman in the U.S. Coast Guard's history.

In his remarks, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the CNMI and the USCG "have had a special relationship over the years" and recognized the USCG for its presence in the CNMI after Super Typhoon Yutu in 2018.

"After Super Typhoon Yutu back in October 2018, Coast Guard aircraft were the first ones in the air to conduct surveillance and helped in creating our first damage assessments. Coast Guard cutter *Sequoia* assisted in bringing in relief supplies during that

vulnerable time," said Torres.

Torres also welcomed Igisomar back home, and recognized her for her "proactive efforts" in getting the CNMI's youth interested in pursuing a career with the USCG. "It is always with a great sense of pride when we see our very own sons and daughters assume officer ranks. We are all very proud of you," said Torres.

In his remarks, Schultz credited Igisomar for helping orchestrate his group's visit to the CNMI, and said he was able to meet over dinner the night before with recent CNMI graduates who have committed to pursuing a career with the Coast Guard.

"As a region, this area encourages the youth to join the military to serve others, to serve our great nation. I just

want to thank you for that level of support, because it is not lost on us back in the [U.S.] mainland that there is something special going on here on how you raise your young men and women," said Schultz.

For gifts, the Coast Guard gave the CNMI's master navigators small models of a USCG vessel, the *Barque Eagle*, and large wooden fishing hooks engraved with the "chief's anchor," a USCG symbol that represents stability and security.

Torres presented Schultz with special Carolinian garb adorned with beads that is typically reserved for special occasions and worn by traditional leaders. Master navigator Cecilio Raiukiulipiy gifted Schultz and the group of USCG officials traditional

paddles, and special rope made of coconut fibers that he said takes much time and many hands to weave.

Schultz and his group earlier attended a joint legislative meeting on Wednesday on Capitol Hill, and left Saipan for Guam last Thursday to commission three new fast response cutters there, the *Myrtle Hazard*, *Oliver Henry*, and the *Frederick Hatch*.

NMC to host free info session today

Community members are reminded to attend Northern Marianas College's free information session today, Aug. 3, 2021 at NMC's Olympio T. Borja Library located in Building O. The info session will be held from 5:30pm. to 6:30pm.

In addition to the admission process, college personnel will talk about the new vaccination requirements for students taking in-person classes for the fall 2021 semester.

Participants of the info session will qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming fall 2021 semester—a savings of about \$75. As part of NMC's COVID-19 safety protocols, participants are asked to wear masks or face coverings when on campus.

The first day of classes will be on Aug. 16, 2021. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply now to register for courses and for financial aid. Currently, up to \$6,495 is available in federal financial aid to qualified students.

For more information about registering for classes for the upcoming fall 2021 semester or to apply for admission, contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. (PR)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Boissy Singapore Pte. Ltd. ("Boissy") will file an application for withdrawal as a foreign corporation with the CNMI Department of Commerce, Registrar of Corporations. Boissy is no longer transacting business in the Commonwealth and will surrender its Certificate of Authority. Boissy hereby revokes the authority of its registered agent to accept service on its behalf. Pursuant to 4 CMC § 4661, the Registrar of Corporations is appointed its agent for service of process in any proceeding based on a cause of action during the time it was authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth.

CNMI DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB21-OGM-145

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 13, 2021 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

**"LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE THE OFFICE OF GRANTS
MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARINGHOUSE"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

****FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY****

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO MR. EPIPHANIO CABRERA, ADMINISTRATOR OF OGM, VIA EMAIL TO epi.cabrera@gov.mp.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P.S.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW21-ITB-030

SUBMISSION DATE: August 25, 2021 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"Hazard Elimination at the Intersection of Route 31
(Chalan Monsignor Guerrero) and Route 307 (Chalan Antonio Apa). Q-THS-0035 (301), Saipan"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **July 27, 2021** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 14, 2021**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **August 19, 2021** to **Ms. Lorraine Sema, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/S/ DAVID DLG. ATALIG
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

EDWIN M. MENDOZA
Petitioner

FCD-DI
CIVIL ACTION
NO. 21-0261

Vs.
CARLOTA P. MARZAN
Respondent

SUMMONS FOR
PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 10001 PMB 433, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgment by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 23rd day of June, 2021.

/s/ Clerk of Court



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Public invited to townhall meeting

The Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council will hold a village townhall meeting this Thursday, Aug. 5, 2021, at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School cafeteria, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. The topic will be about the proposed resumption of the Saipan Neighborhood Watch program.

Power interruption tomorrow

There will be a scheduled power service interruption tomorrow, Aug. 4, 2021, from 9am to 11am for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in As Perdido and partials of Chalan Kanoa.

This will allow CUC line-men to re-install the airbrake switch in the affected areas that were damaged during Super Typhoon Yutu.

■ **Outage Type:** Sectionalized Interruption on the Kiya 2 & 4 Circuits

■ **Project Location:** As Perdido and Chalan Kanoa

■ **Power Service Area(s) Affected:** As Perdido and parts of Chalan Kanoa

■ **Water Well Affected:** None

■ **Wastewater Lift Station Affected:** A8 and A10 Lift Stations

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest

updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). (PR)

4.5-magnitude quake in Merizo

At 6:33am on Aug. 2, 2021, a report of a 4.5-magnitude earthquake occurred 267 kilometers west southwest of Merizo, Guam. Currently, no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

4.9-magnitude quake in Yigo

At 11:09am on Aug. 1, 2021, a report of a 4.9-magnitude earthquake occurred 14.005°N 145.063°E, 55 kilometers north-northeast of Yigo, Guam. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 670-237-8000. (PR)

Learn about federal contracting

The Guam Procurement Technical Assistance Center is offering free live webinars this month. Webinars run from 10am to 11:30am and will be conducted via Zoom. Links to the live webinar and the webinar evaluation will be emailed to all registered attendees 15 minutes before the

start of the webinar.

■ **Aug. 5 – Applying for a DUNS Number & Registering in SAM – Vendors need a DUNS number and an active SAM registration to participate in Federal contracting. The Guam PTAC will take you through the registration processes for both these requirements. We will also show you how to complete the annual SAM registration renewal.**

■ **Aug. 12 – Federal Contract Opportunities – SAM.gov is the portal for Federal Contract Opportunities. The Guam PTAC will show you how to use the website to ensure you do not miss any opportunities. Types of opportunities, search filters, and search strategies will be discussed.**

■ **Aug. 19 – Cybersecurity: Federal Contractor Responsibilities – The Department of Defense is requiring cybersecurity certification for vendors. We will discuss the best way to comply with DOD's requirement. The upcoming Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) and the DFARS Interim Rule will be discussed.**

■ **Aug. 26 – Marketing to the federal government – The government buys products and services differently than the private sector. The Guam PTAC will discuss marketing strategies, essential documents, and how to get your company on "the list."**

Register at <http://guamp-tac.com/news-and-events.php>. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (DPL)
 Tel.: (670) 234-3751 • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp • Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

NOTICE OF INTENT TO LEASE PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- The proposed lease of public land is described as Tract 21662 containing an area of approximately 44,350 square meters, more or less, situated in Garapan, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands and website www.dpl.gov.mp for inspection.
- The prospective lessee is Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency. The lists of officers for Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency are Hitoshi Nakauchi, President, Nonuhiko Ikemoto, Secretary/Treasurer and Nick Nishikawa, as General Manager.
- The proposed lease is compliant with DPL regulations and was negotiated by Mr. Nick Nishikawa.
- The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of operating a Hotel Resort Complex.

The term of the public land lease agreement is 40 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term of the lease agreement is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property plus the applicable percentage of Business Gross Receipts in DPL's regulation.
- A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp
- The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Lower Base, Saipan.
- The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before, August 3, 2021, 2021 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIAN INTENSION PARA U MA'ATKILAI TĀNU' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lain Puplicu 15-2, i Dipattamentun Tanu' Puplicu mannānā'i nutisia guini put i intension-nihapara u ma'atklai metton na tanu' pupbluku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Mariānas. Maseha hāyi na pattida ni intrisao gi halum henerat pupbluku siña muna' hālum upiñon, imfotmasyon, pat testimonium kinontra gi tinahguin prinoponi siha para i atklon nu i tanu' pupbluku. Kumu mapribeni más mo'na ginin i Lain Puplicu 15-2, i tinattituyi pettanesi na imfotmasyon manisistita para u mapupblika.

- I maproponi na atklon tanu' pupbluku madiskribi kumu Tract 21662 ni konsisisti kási 44,350 square meters, más pat menus, ni gaigigi hālum Garapan, iya Saipan. I kopian pátin i lugát managuaha gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Puplicu yan i website gi www.dpl.gov.mp para inspeksion.
- I prospective lessee sa i Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency. I listan ufisiat siha para i Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency si Hitoshi Nakauchi, Presidenti, Nonuhiko Ikemoto, Sekritariu/Tresuraru yan si Nick Nishikawa, komu Henerat Maniya.
- I maproponi na atklon ha tattituyi i regulasion DPL siha yan ginin manegosiuni as Siñot Nick Nishikawa.
- I lessee debi na u usa i lugát put atyu ha' na rason nu i kinalamtin Hotel Resort Complex.

I tema nu i maproponina kontratan atklon sa kuarenta (40) ānus na tiempu.

I maproponi na atklon gi kada' sākkan gi durāntin teman kontratan i atklon mapega gi putsientunu i bālin "appraised fair market" i propiedat yan i aplikao na putsientu nu i Business Gross Receipts gi halum i regulasion DPL.
- I kopian nu i maproponi na kuntratan atklon siña machuli' gi ufisinan i Dipattamentun Tanu' Puplicu, ni gaigi gi sigundu (2nd) na bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building iya Dandan, Saipan, primet (1st) na bibiendan i De'Ana Commercial Building, iya Songsong Village, Luta; pat i primet (1st) na bibiendan i Kings Commercial Building, giya Tinian. I kopia debi lokku' na managuaha online gi www.dpl.gov.mp
- I Dipattamentun Tanu' Puplicu taya marisibi ni hāfa na tinahguin inofresi siha ni para u ma'atklai i suhetu na tanu' pupbluku gi Lower Base, iya Saipan.
- I Sekretariu Dipattamentun Tanu' Puplicu debi na u akseptu tinigi' upiñon, imfotmasyon, testimonium kinontra pat tinahguin prinoponi siha ginin i manintirisao na pattida siha gi pat āntis di Augusto dia Tres Benti Uno, gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Puplicu siha ni gaigi giya Saipan, LutapaTinian.

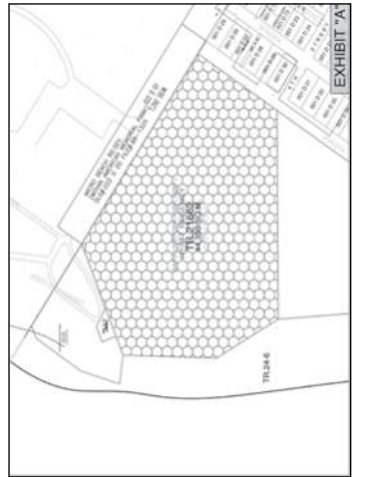
ARONGORONG REEL MÁNGEMÁNGIL POMMWOL ATKILÓÓNL FALUWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) reel Alléghúl Toulap 15-2. Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap e attotoowowa rongorong reel igha re mángemángil rebwe atklilaay akkāw faluweer toulap loll Seipél, Commonwealth Téel Faluw kka Efáng Ilól Marianas. Schóókka re mwuschel isisilong kkapas, data, views, ngáre angiangi reel pommwol atklilóónl faluweer toulap. Eyoor sángi Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, arongorong ikka e amwirimwiritiw ebwe akktééwowa.

- Pommwol atklilóónl faluweer toulap e bwááló bwe Tract 21662 ebwe bwáábwe 44,350 reel square meters, elapélóng áreeghus, iye e lo Arabwal, Seipél. Pappidil faluw yeel eyoor me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me bwal wóól website me www.dpl.gov.mp ngáre u Mwuschel amwuri.
- Pommwol school atklilóónl nge Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency. List-al officers ngáli Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency nge Hitoshi Nakauchi, President, Nonuhiko Ikemoto, Sekkretóoriu/Treasurer me Nick Nishikawa, nge General Manager.
- Pommwol atklilóónl nge e angúungú fengál me mwóghutughutúl DPL me e abwungubwung sángi Mr. Nick Nishikawa.
- Schóól atklilóónl ebwe yááyá faluw ngáli mwóghutughutúl Hotel Resort Complex.

Pommwol abwungubwungúl Atklilóónl Faluweer Toulap nge fáágh ráágh.

Pommwol atklilóónl ghal ráághatol abwungubwungúl atklilóónl nge e lo reel "percentage" sángi "appraised fair market value" reel faluw fengál me "applicable percentage of Business gross Receipts" loll mwóghutughutúl DPL.
- Pappidil pommwol abwungubwungúl Atklilóónl emmwel ubwe bweibwogh mereel Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor reel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Seipél; 1st floor reel De'Ana Commercial Building, apilómwol Songsong, me Luta; ngáre 1st floor reel Kings Commercial Building, Tchiliyól. Ebwal yoor pappidil mille online me www.dpl.gov.mp
- Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap rese bweibwogh pommw iye re siiwelingáli atklilóónl iye e lo weilāng reel faluweer toulap me Navy Hill, Seipél.
- Sekkretóoriyal Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap emmwelil bweibwogh ischil mángemáng, views, angii ngáre pommiwe re siiwel sángi schóókka re mwuschel wool ngáre mmwalil Elune Elerra Ruwangeras Ruweigh me Eew, me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me Seipél, Luta, ngáre Tchiliyól.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

CUC-RAESP-21-030

A&E DESIGN SERVICES FOR AGINGAN WWTP IMPROVEMENTS
(S20-080)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms for the Design Services of the Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements in Agingan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Proposers for this project must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one package set.

A **Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference followed by site visits** will be held on **July 26, 2021 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Proposal and One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal in a separate envelope must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RAESP-21-030, A&E Design Services for Agingan WWTP Improvements"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on August 16, 2021. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.**

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Consultant's preparation of a proposal under the contract. The RAESP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the statement of qualifications under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Consultants are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAESP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 2, 2021** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater, Acting Chief Engineer – via email larry.manacop@cucgov.org; Westen Knudsen, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Technician Senior – via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM B. GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Military should keep confronting racism and pay conservative critics no attention

Like many of the country's institutions, the U.S. military has come under fire from certain Republican lawmakers for daring to take on racism and extremism within its ranks. One recent example occurred early this month, when an Air Force Academy professor said in an op-ed that critical race theory—that academic lightning rod—was fair game for discussion with cadets, leading conservative legislators to suggest some kind of indoctrination against America was occurring in the nation's military academies.

Reps. Dan Crenshaw of Texas, Jim Banks of Indiana and Mike Gallagher of Wisconsin, along with Sen. Tom Cotton of Arkansas, went so far as to direct an investigation into Navy "culture," which, predictably, found an "over-sensitivity and responsiveness to modern media culture."

"Military leaders are prioritizing woke training over actual war fighting," Crenshaw, a former Navy SEAL, tweeted July 15. He neglected to add that only 3% of Navy SEALs and 2% of Navy pilots are Black.

He and Cotton had earlier created a whistleblower webpage to fight against supposed unnecessary "woke ideology" in the military. Cotton, who has been accused of misrepresenting his Army service, even claimed at a congressional hearing last month that efforts at rooting out racism were hurting morale within the ranks, and that such issues didn't exist before President Joe Biden took office. He said military officers were leaving their units because of "mandatory training on police brutality, white privilege and systemic racism."

Seriously? They can handle boot camp but not a little self-reflection?

The moaning is all a bit much. Conservative Republicans seem to cry out "culture wars" whenever the idea of addressing the country's issues with race and inequality is raised. But learning about the ways in which race and perceptions of it have negatively shaped opinion, opportunity and institutions within our borders should only be offensive to you if you're guilty of perpetuating the problem. What ever happened to knowledge is power?

We know it's an uncomfortable conversation to have, but avoiding it doesn't change reality or the need to confront what is apparently a growing problem. A Military Times survey conducted in February last polled 1,630 active duty subscribers (compared to the 77 people interviewed for the Navy culture "investigation") and found that 36% of all active duty troops and 53% of minority service members had witnessed instances of white nationalism or racism within the military—up significantly from 2018, when the poll was last conducted. Respondents also said white nationalists are a greater national security threat than both domestic terrorism with a connection to Islam, as well as immigration. Add to that the revelation that the Jan. 6 attackers on the U.S. Capitol had an over-representation of active duty and veteran members of the military, with one in five people criminally charged in the incident having an armed forces background, and the crisis is undeniable.

See **MILITARY** on Next Page

The must-see, must-listen Jan. 6 hearings

“Let that sink in” is among the most persistent refrains on political Twitter. Jolts have hit American brains too fast and too furious over the past five years, what with political upheaval and the pandemic. Our minds need “sink-in” intervals to absorb what has happened.

Even as overused as the phrase is—enough to merit parody, with images of bathroom sinks—it still functions to express baseline incredulity. This week, during the congressional hearings on the Jan. 6 Capitol attack, the meme surfaced again.

Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., the chair of the House select committee, opened the proceedings on Tuesday by observing that the deadly insurrection meant that, for the first time in American history, “The peaceful transfer of power did not happen. It did not happen. Let that sink in.”

Later that day, actor and activist Mark Ruffalo tweeted, “Betrayed their oath of office. Let that sink in.”

Ruffalo was quote-tweeting the testimony of Metropolitan Police Officer Michael Fanone, one of the District of Columbia police who testified Tuesday.

Fanone was severely injured as he tried to protect the Capitol from armed Trump supporters and other far-right groups. “Nothing has prepared me,” he said Tuesday, “to address those elected members of our government who continue to deny the events of that day and in doing so betray their oath of office.”

Thompson’s and Ruffalo’s palpable “let that sink in” shock at the insurrection and at its denial is the point of the hearings convened by the select committee. It’s their reason for being. We have to go over the indisputable facts of the Capitol attack and its aftermath again—and again—so we fully comprehend what happened, and so we refuse to allow history to be reconfigured by revisionists and justifiers.

It’s been only seven months since American terrorists, flying Trump flags and Confederate flags, violently attacked their own Capitol, at what they claim was the behest of the then-president, and with the spoken intent, in some cases, to kill public servants and elected officials.

Would such a sentence have tracked at all five years ago?

And, even now, can anyone honestly claim they’ve registered—

By **VIRGINIA HEFFERNAN**

Los Angeles Times

Virginia Heffernan is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.



I mean in their bones—that American terrorists brought a noose to the U.S. Capitol and called for the hanging of former Vice President Mike Pence?

But they did. And that’s why the video shown in the hearings and the testimony of those who were there should be required viewing and listening for all Americans.

Time magazine has designated the Capitol attack “the most documented crime in history,” but that assertion alone won’t help anyone digest it. It’s crucial that we see and hear the documentation, even though, as Thompson put it, “many may find [it] disturbing.”

The aerial images in the video shown at the hearing reveal the ghastly extent of the siege. Audio makes clear the frenzy, rage and lethal intentions of the attackers. At top voice, using the crudest, most violent anti-police insults and white supremacist slurs, they bash, trample and maul the Capitol’s defenders.

To fail to come to terms with this evidence leaves the mind vulnerable to those on the far right who are trying to rebrand the terrorists as “loving” (Donald Trump), “tourists” (Georgia GOP Rep. Andrew Clyde), part of a merely out-of-hand “political protest” (TV personality Tucker Carlson) or “peaceful” (TV personality Brit Hume).

To aid in the public’s process of understanding, the Capitol and Metropolitan police officers testified levelly to what they saw and heard. They demonstrated exactly how to stay close to the facts, how to prevent anyone from twisting them.

What tyrants want, what gives them the whip hand, wrote George Orwell, is for you to doubt your own perceptions, “to reject the evidence of your eyes and ears.” With their words and de-

See **HEARINGS** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Dreaming and fulfilling one's life goals: Kim Hong-bin and Archbishop Flores

A Korean mountaineer, Kim Hong-bin scaled the summit of the Broad Peak on July 18, culminating his long-awaited dream to scale all 14 peaks over 8,000 meters. A crowning achievement, indeed. Only 43 climbers were blessed to possess this daunting record. Kim Hong-bin became the 44th honorable record-holder. Surprisingly, Kim Hong-bin is a fingerless climber. All his fingers had to be amputated due to frostbite when he suffered a tragic climbing accident in 1991. After the amputation of all his fingers, he went through a dark tunnel of despair. He found himself unable to make a living, and even unable to change his underwear. However, he was not enshrouded by his despondency. He decided to focus on things he could do well and really love, which meant he would climb mountains again. He experienced an epiphany. According to Kim Hong-bin, he only thought about himself before he lost his fingers. But after the injury, he began to think about others. Through desperate efforts, he came to climb high mountains one by one. In order to conquer mountains, he invented climbing tools which had been altered to fit his fingerless hands. Through these unrelenting and creative efforts, he fulfilled his goal of climbing all the highest peaks on all the seven continents from 1997 through 2009. His challenge did not stop there. He had a strong desire to become a beacon of hope by demonstrating his resolve to reach all 14 eight-thousanders.

He initially dreamt of this at a time when he vainly attempted to scale the peak of Nanga Parbat in 1990. His dream could have died in 1991 following his tragic climbing accident. Despite his seemingly unsurmountable ordeal, he saved his dream from the dark tunnel of despair and started a three-decade-long journey to fulfill it. He risked his life numerous times. Although he faced diverse danger coupled with inclement weather and crevasse, etc., he was not intimidated nor defeated by it. Instead, he felt humbled in front of sleeping giants. As time passed by, his strong desire to scale 14 mountain peaks over 8,000 meters turned into an unwavering goal. As part of his training to cultivate basic strength, he fully partook in other sports. He participated in many international competitions in the disabled Skier Section. He took part in the 2002 Paralympic as a member of the Korean national team. He even highlighted his competitive spirit by winning prizes at the cycling championships for the disabled several times.

Kim Hong-bin used to emphasize that with only 1% possibility of success, he would willingly make 1,000 attempts. His steadfastness, well-trained strength, skillful adaptation to decreased oxygen levels, and his spirit of challenge led him to scale notorious mountain peaks like the K2 (2012), Nanga Parbat (2017), to name a few.

Until last year, he scaled all 13 eight-thousanders and only Broad Peak remained to fulfill his long-awaited dream. He is the first disabled climber who is blessed to keep such an un-

believable record. Although his story is inspirational, it took a turn for the worst. On July 19, Kim Hong-bin went missing while descending after he topped the summit of Broad Peak the previous day. Search operations came to a halt at the request of his wife about one week after he was lost. According to Kim Hong-bin's wife, he wished to avoid search efforts if he goes missing. Now Kim Hong-bin rests in peace in an unknown place in the Himalaya mountains. Kim Hong-bin also shared with me his last wishes. He once told me he would like to rest in peace in the mountain without being moved. Kim Hong-bin was my bonafide friend since the day we met in Pakistan in 2016. I pay homage to my friend, Kim Hong-bin, for his heroic and great life.

While I was pondering about the life of Kim Hong-bin, I came across one CHamoru figure that makes me feel like he is the mirror image of Kim Hong-bin. That figure is Archbishop Felixberto C. Flores. I wish to share a narrative exposition, as shared by a Korean, of Archbishop Flores—one that people of Guam might not be aware of. Much like Kim Hong-bin's life story, the adjective "the first" describes many of Archbishop Flores' life achievements: the first CHamoru bishop and the first archbishop.

Archbishop Flores had a strong and long-cherished desire for Father Vitores to be acknowledged as a beatus. Father Vitores, a Spaniard, evangelized in the Marianas region about four years between 1668-1672 and was martyred in 1672. He was truly the father of Christian Mission in this region. There were fruitless efforts for his beatification in the Philippines and Spain more than 300 years ago. Archbishop Flores was dedicated to make this long-unfulfilled dream a reality. Through his and several other partners' desperate efforts, all the requirements were met for Father Vitores to be beatified. However, the unknown date of the beatification ceremony posed a problem. Furthermore, Archbishop Flores was suffering from chronic cardiac and renal disease for a long time. Given his health condition, Archbishop Flores knew well enough that he should speed up the process if he wanted to see the ceremony of the beatification in his lifetime. Consequently, Archbishop Flores decided to appeal to the Pope, His Holiness John Paul II, directly at a time when the Pope paid a formal visit to Korea on the occasion of the ceremony for the 103 Sanctus in May 1984 that marked the 200th year of the arrival of the Catholic Church in Korea. Though Archbishop Flores visited Korea with such fervent desire, to have a personal audience with the Pope must have been a really formidable task. He met Korean bishop Kyung Joseph who was in charge of the Pope's itinerary in Korea and requested a special meeting with the Pope but was cordially declined. The Archbishop was disheartened. However, to his benefit, there was one sister, Shin Nicola, who consoled the Archbishop to go back to his hotel and wait there, promising that she would find a way to secure a meeting with the Pope. She was serving as secretary to Bishop Kyung Joseph

and the present, inequities of all kinds must be thoroughly examined, with their roots uncovered and ripped out. These are real problems that far outweigh any individual soldier's—or lawmaker's—discomfort about them. Pentagon officials should turn on the white noise machine when they are confronted with such nonsense and keep pushing on the path toward anti-racism. Treat the conservative backlash for what it is: an attempt at distraction that should simply be ignored.

some large scale, are also promising. Fort Bragg, one of the largest military bases, commemorated Juneteenth last month. And the Defense Department has created a deputy inspector general position for "diversity and inclusion and supremacist, extremist and criminal gang activity. "We hope this role is not just ceremonial and given the teeth it needs to truly diversify the ranks and address racism.

But the military shouldn't stop there. What about the women whose sexual assault claims have been brushed aside by higher-ups? To truly move forward and address wrongs of both the past

that include bottles and rocks and hand-thrown chemical-grade fireworks."

"Hand-thrown chemical-grade fireworks." Precise descriptions help humans maintain cognitive alertness; they are a hedge against an overwhelmed mind stalling, or going blank.

"Under normal circumstances, we just stay shut," Sgt. Aquilino Gonell told the committee. "We don't talk about what happened to us. But this is bigger than that."

By IN KOOK KIM

Special to the Saipan Tribune

In Kook Kim is the Head of Mission at the Consular Office of the Republic of Korea in Hagatna, Guam.



at that time and knew Archbishop Flores well since she committed about one year for the initial Korean Catholic community from 1982. Thanks to her earnest efforts and last-ditch arrangement, Archbishop Flores could join a dinner in honor of the Pope with only a limited number of participants held at the Ambassador's residence of the Holy See to Seoul. Archbishop Flores was overjoyed when he got out of the residence because he received a positive response from the Pope. After that, sadly and unexpectedly, the Archbishop suffered a medical crisis the following day. The Archbishop had to be transported to the hospital because he lost consciousness during the massive Catholic event that required an extended period of walking and standing. Additionally, the Archbishop had to endure grueling dialysis thrice during his stay in Korea. Fortunately, Archbishop Flores recovered and returned to Guam after completing his desired itinerary. The following year, the Archbishop was honored to attend the awaited ceremony of beatification for Father Vitores in Rome on Oct. 6, 1985. Immediately after the ceremony he traveled to San Francisco where he was treated for his heart condition. According to his secretary and his close family friends, Archbishop Flores had a premonition about his death. Before Archbishop entered the operating theater, he said to his family and friends, "Goodbye and thank you for everything." Despite a successful heart surgery, he breathed his last on Oct. 25, 1985, due to a heart attack. He now rests in peace in the sanctuary of the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica.

Kim Hong-bin and Archbishop Felixberto C. Flores both fulfilled their ultimate dreams, and in the process, their lives were risked. Both of them lost their lives after the accomplishment of their dreams. Though they lost their lives, their spirits, the essence of who they are, live on forever. Archbishop Flores: his statue, also known as the Archbishop Felixberto Flores Memorial Circle, was erected by the Filipino community two years after his death. (The Archbishop's father was Filipino). It is a landmark in Guam that resonates with the people of Guam. Similarly, Gwangju Museum of Art hosted a photo exhibition for climber Kim Hong-bin titled *Life Beyond the Mountains* last year. And it is no doubt that memorial projects in honor of Kim Hong-bin will be vigorously carried out in the days to come. It is men like these that inspire. If there is anything that the readers take from these stories, let it be this: Never give up on your dreams, even if the odds are against you.

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MILITARY

From Page 8

Change finally could be on the horizon, however, under the leadership of Defense Secretary Lloyd J. Austin III, the first African American person to hold the post. He has ordered the military to investigate extremist activity and lifted a Trump-era ban on diversity training; he also spoke at a Pride Month celebration at the Pentagon. Other efforts, some small and

HEARINGS

From Page 8






meanor, the officers showed us how to restore confidence in our experiences and resist that tyranny.

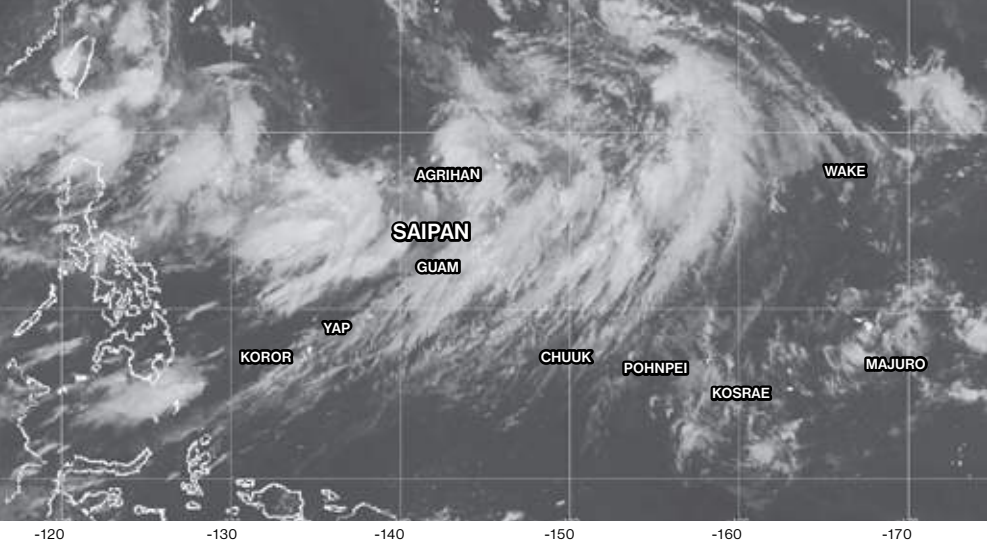
Here's what the audio shows us that one radioed to a superior that day: "We are still taking metal off, sharpened objects, missiles

We can't not listen, we can't stay shut either. If we meet our obligation to attend to the evidence of the Jan. 6 crimes, we will understand the perfidy of figures like House Minority Leader Rep. Kevin McCarthy and Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, who have violated their oaths of office and cravenly denied the true extent of what happened at the Capitol.

If we let the reality of that terrible day sink in, the facts will finally be bigger than any attempt to discredit them.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. South winds 5 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	
86°	76°	84°	76°	84°	76°	84°	76°	84°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 9:14 AM, MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite and lightning sensors show frequent showers and scattered thunderstorms moving through the Marianas Waters this morning. The Ipan buoy reveals combined seas of around 2 feet, composed of east trade-wind swell. Numerical wave model guidance projects a monsoon swell from the west-northwest of 5 to 6 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.


- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20



seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°	
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Majuro	Sunny	87° / 81°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:59 AM	6:46 PM
Wednesday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Thursday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Friday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Saturday	6:00 AM	6:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	1:13 AM	2:25 PM	-
Wednesday	1:57 AM	3:17 PM	-
Thursday	2:44 AM	4:10 PM	-
Friday	3:35 AM	5:02 PM	-
Saturday	4:28 AM	5:53 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Thunderstorms	59° / 48°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	90° / 73°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 84°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°	
London	Rain	61° / 54°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	85° / 67°	
Manila	Mostly Sunny	90° / 79°	
Melbourne	Showers	63° / 46°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
New York	Mostly Sunny	84° / 67°	
Osaka	Showers	91° / 81°	
Paris	Showers	70° / 55°	
Busan	Showers	88° / 75°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	97° / 73°	
Salem	Thunderstorms	84° / 72°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	65° / 57°	
Seoul	Thunderstorms	88° / 73°	
Tokyo	Rain	86° / 75°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	84° / 67°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
2:25 AM	High Tide	1.79	
10:12 AM	Low Tide	0.37	
5:44 PM	High Tide	1.65	
10:14 PM	Low Tide	1.39	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2021

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	2, 4, 5, 7	UA174	4:50am	5:50am	1, 3, 6
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 3, 6	UA174	7:30am	8:11am	2, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	2, 5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:50am+1	2, 5 via Guam
UA117/183	6:30am	9:10pm	3, 6, 7 via Guam	UA184/174	10:25pm	8:11am+1	3, 6, 7 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	6:55pm	8:50pm	2, 5	UA184	9:50pm	4:00am+1	2, 5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	3, 6, 7	UA184	10:25pm	4:40am+1	3, 6, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.				
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021				
SAIPAN TO ROTA				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily	1202 8:00 8:15 Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily	1203 9:00 9:15 Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1204 10:00 10:15 Daily
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily	1205 11:00 11:15 Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1206 12:00 12:15 Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily	1207 13:00 13:15 Temporarily Unavailable
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily	1208 14:00 14:15 Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1209 15:00 15:15 Daily
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily	1210 16:00 16:15 Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				1211 17:00 17:15 Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1212 17:00 17:15 Temporarily Unavailable
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	
GUAM TO ROTA				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	

Business

It's in—and big: Senators produce \$1T infrastructure bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—After much delay, senators unveiled a nearly \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure package Sunday night, wrapping up days of painstaking work on the inches-thick bill and launching what is certain to be a lengthy debate over President Joe Biden's big priority.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act clocked in at some 2,700 pages, and senators could begin amending it soon. Despite the hurry-up-and-wait during a rare week-end session, the final product was not intended to stray from the broad outline senators had negotiated for weeks with the White House.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said a final vote could be held "in a matter of days."

A key part of Biden's agenda, the bipartisan bill is the first phase of the president's infrastructure plan. It calls for \$550 billion in new spending over five years above projected federal levels, what could be one of the more substantial expenditures on the nation's roads, bridges, waterworks, broadband and the electric grid in years.

Senators and staff labored behind the scenes for days to write the massive bill. It was supposed to be ready Friday, but by Sunday even more glitches were caught and



Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, center, speaks with Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., left, while Sen. John Kennedy, R-La., walks by at right, as the Senate votes to formally begin debate on a roughly \$1 trillion infrastructure plan, a process that could take several days, at the Capitol in Washington, Friday, July 30, 2021.

changes made. To prod the work, Schumer kept senators in session over the weekend, encouraging the authors to finish up work.

One by one, senators involved in the bipartisan effort rose on the Senate floor late in the evening Sunday to mark the moment.

"We know that this has been a long and sometimes difficult process, but we are proud this evening to an-

nounce this legislation," said Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., a lead negotiator.

Republican negotiator Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio said the final product will be "great for the American people."

Over the long weekend of starts and stops, Schumer repeatedly warned that he was prepared to keep lawmakers in Washington for as long as it took to complete votes on both the bipartisan infra-

structure plan as well as a budget blueprint that would allow the Senate to begin work later this year on a massive, \$3.5 trillion social, health and environmental bill.

"The longer it takes to finish, the longer we will be here, but we're going to get the job done," he said.

Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, predicted: "It's going to be a grind."

Among the major new in-

vestments in the bipartisan package are \$110 billion for roads and bridges, \$39 billion for public transit and \$66 billion for rail. There's also \$55 billion for water and wastewater infrastructure as well as billions for airports, ports, broadband internet and electric vehicle charging stations.

The spending is broadly popular among lawmakers, bringing long-delayed capital for big-ticket items that

cites and states can rarely afford on their own.

Paying for the package has been a challenge after senators rejected ideas to raise revenue from a new gas tax or other streams. Instead, it is being financed from funding sources that might not pass muster with deficit hawks, including repurposing some \$205 billion in untapped COVID-19 relief aid, as well as unemployment assistance that was turned back by some states and relying on projected future economic growth.

Bipartisan support from Republican and Democratic senators pushed the process along, and Schumer wanted the voting to be wrapped up before senators left for the August recess.

Last week, 17 GOP senators joined all Democrats in voting to start work on the bipartisan bill. That support largely held, with Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., voting yes in another procedural vote to nudge the process along in the 50-50 Senate, where 60 votes are needed to overcome a filibuster an advance legislation.

Whether the number of Republican senators willing to pass the bill grows or shrinks in the days ahead will determine if the president's signature issue can make it across the finish line.

Walmart mandates vaccines for workers at headquarters

NEW YORK (AP)—Walmart is requiring that all workers at its headquarters as well as its managers who travel within the U.S. be vaccinated against COVID-19 by Oct. 4.

The retailer based in Bentonville, Arkansas, is also reversing its mask policy for its employees working in stores, clubs, distribution facilities and warehouses. Going forward, they will be required to wear masks in areas with high infection rates, even if they have been vaccinated.

The moves are part of a series of sweeping measures the nation's largest retailer and private employer announced Friday to help curb the spread of the virus and drive more of its workers to get the shot in the arm.

The vaccine mandate excludes frontline workers, who the company says have a lower vaccination rate than management. But it's hoping that managerial employees,

who represent just a fraction of its 1.5 million workers, will serve as inspiration.

"We're hoping that will influence even more of our frontline associates to become vaccinated," Walmart spokesman Scott Pope said.

Pope declined to break out the vaccination rate for frontline workers and the rest of Walmart's employees.

Walmart is also encouraging customers to wear masks in stores located in areas with surging cases and will be adding back signs at the entrances. It will also bring back so-called health ambassadors who will be stationed at the entrances and hand out masks.

The company is also doubling to \$150 the incentive it is offering to workers in stores, clubs, as well as other facilities like distribution centers, to get the vaccine. Those who already received the \$75 incentive will receive another \$75 in their paycheck dated Aug 19.

Frustration as Biden, Congress allow eviction ban to expire

WASHINGTON (AP)—Anger and frustration mounted in Congress as a nationwide eviction moratorium expired at midnight Saturday—one Democratic lawmaker even camping outside the Capitol in protest as millions of Americans faced being forced from their homes.

Lawmakers said they were blindsided by President Joe Biden's inaction as the deadline neared, some furious that he called on Congress to provide a last-minute solution to protect renters. The rare division between the president and his party carried potential lasting political ramifications.

Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., the chair of the Financial Services Committee, said Saturday on CNN: "We thought that the White House was in charge."

Rep. Cori Bush, D-Mo., camped outside the Capitol, said: "I don't plan to leave before some type of change happens."

"We are only hours away from a fully preventable housing crisis," said Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., during a floor speech in a rare Saturday session as senators labored



People from a coalition of housing justice groups hold signs protesting evictions during a news conference outside the Statehouse, Friday, July 30, 2021, in Boston.

over an infrastructure package.

"We have the tools and we have the funding," Warren said. "What we need is the time."

More than 3.6 million Americans are at risk of eviction, some in a matter of days. The moratorium was put in place by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as part of the COVID-19 crisis when jobs shifted and many workers lost income.

The eviction ban was intended to prevent further virus

spread by people put out on the streets and into shelters. Congress approved nearly \$47 billion in federal housing aid to the states during the pandemic, but it has been slow to make it into the hands of renters and landlords owed payments.

The day before the ban was set to expire, Biden called on local governments to "take all possible steps" to immediately disburse the funds.

"There can be no excuse for any state or locality not accel-

erating funds to landlords and tenants that have been hurt during this pandemic," he said in a statement late Friday.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi pointed Democratic House members in the same direction, urging them in a letter Saturday night to check into how the money already allocated has been distributed so far in their own states and localities. She said the Treasury Department, which transferred the funds earlier in the year, offered to brief lawmakers next week.

Biden set off the scramble by announcing Thursday he would allow the eviction ban to expire instead of challenging a recent Supreme Court ruling signaling this would be the last deadline.

The White House has been clear that Biden would have liked to extend the federal eviction moratorium because of the spread of the highly contagious delta variant of the coronavirus. But there were also concerns that challenging the court could lead to a ruling restricting the administration's ability to respond to future public health crises.

Nation

Fauci: More 'pain and suffering' ahead as COVID cases rise

By JONATHAN MATTISE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dr. Anthony Fauci warned Sunday that more "pain and suffering" is on the horizon as COVID-19 cases climb again and officials plead with unvaccinated Americans to get their shots.

Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, also said he doesn't foresee additional lockdowns in the U.S. because he believes enough people are vaccinated to avoid a recurrence of last winter. However, he said not enough are inoculated to "crush the outbreak" at this point.

Fauci's warning comes days after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention changed course to recommend that even vaccinated people return to wearing masks indoors in parts of the U.S. where the delta variant is fueling infection surges. With the switch, federal health officials have cited studies

showing vaccinated people can spread the virus to others.

Most new infections in the U.S. continue to be among unvaccinated people. So-called breakthrough infections can occur in vaccinated people, and though the vast majority of those cause mild or no symptoms, the research shows they can carry about the same amount of the coronavirus as those who did not get the shots.

"So we're looking, not, I believe, to lockdown, but we're looking to some pain and suffering in the future because we're seeing the cases go up, which is the reason why we keep saying over and over again, the solution to this is get vaccinated and this would not be happening," Fauci said on ABC's "This Week."

According to data through July 30 from Johns Hopkins University, the seven-day roll-

ing average for daily new cases in the U.S. rose from 30,887 on July 16 to 77,827 on July 30. The seven-day rolling average for the country's daily new deaths rose over the same period from 253 on July 16 to 358 on July 30, though death reports generally lag weeks after infections and even longer after hospitalizations.

Currently, 58% of Americans 12 years and older are fully vaccinated, according to the CDC's data tracker.

However, people are "getting the message" and more are rolling up their sleeves amid the threat of the delta variant, according to the director of the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Francis Collins said on CNN's "State of the Union" that vaccinations are up 56% in the U.S. in the last two weeks.

Louisiana, which has the most

new cases per capita among states in the past 14 days, has seen vaccinations up threefold over that period, Collins said.

"That's what desperately needs to happen if we are going to get this delta variant put back in its place, because right now it's having a pretty big party in the middle of the country," Collins said.

Collins also said that even with the prevalence of the delta variant, the shots are working "extremely well" and reduce a person's risk of serious illness and hospitalization "25-fold." The guidance for vaccinated people to start wearing masks indoors again in certain places with worsening outbreaks, he said, is mostly meant to protect unvaccinated and immunocompromised people.

The CDC has also recommended indoor mask-wearing for all teachers, staff, students and visitors at schools nationwide, regardless of vaccination status.



Fauci



Signage stands at the ready (foreground) in case COVID-19 testing at Barnett Park reaches capacity, as cars wait in line in Orlando, Fla., Thursday, July 29, 2021.

AP

Florida breaks record for COVID-19 hospitalizations

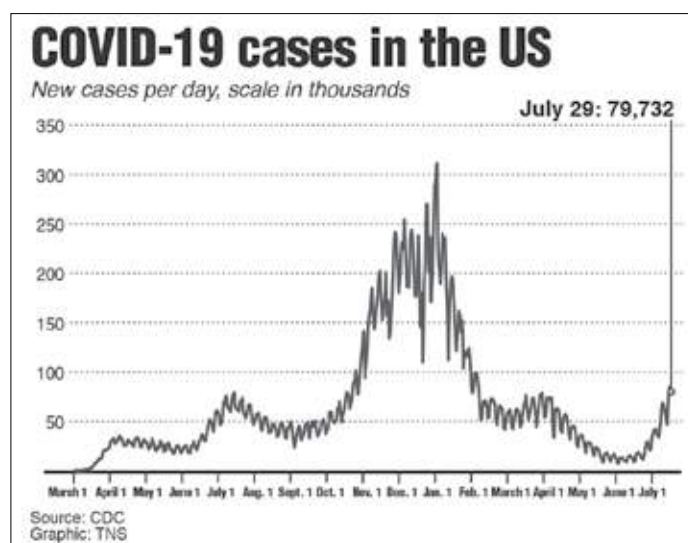
ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—A day after it recorded the most new daily cases since the start of the pandemic, Florida on Sunday broke a previous record for current hospitalizations set more than a year ago before vaccines were available.

The Sunshine State had 10,207 people hospitalized with confirmed COVID-19 cases, according to data reported to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

The previous record was from July 23, 2020, more than a half-year before vaccinations started becoming widespread, when Florida had 10,170 hospitalizations, according to the Florida Hospital Association.

Florida is now leading the nation in per capita hospitalizations for COVID-19, as hospitals around the state report having to put emergency room visitors in beds in hallways and others document a noticeable drop in the age of patients.

In the past week, Florida has averaged 1,525 adult hospitalizations a day, and 35 daily pe-



diatric hospitalizations. Both are the highest per capita rate in the nation, according to Jason Salemi, an associate professor of epidemiology at the University of South Florida.

The hospitalizations and increasing cases have come as the new, more transmissible delta variant has spread throughout Florida, and residents have returned to pre-pandemic activities.

"The recent rise is both striking and not-at-all surprising," Salemi

said in an email late Saturday.

Federal health data released Saturday showed that Florida reported 21,683 new cases of COVID-19, the state's highest one-day total since the start of the pandemic. The latest numbers were recorded on Friday and released on Saturday on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website. The figures show how quickly the number of cases is rising in the Sunshine State: only a day earlier, Florida

reported 17,093 new daily cases.

Republican Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis has resisted mandatory mask mandates and vaccine requirements, and along with the state Legislature, has limited local officials' ability to impose restrictions meant to stop the spread of COVID-19. DeSantis on Friday barred school districts from requiring students to wear masks when classes resume next month.

Florida's Democratic agriculture commissioner, Nikki Fried, who is seeking to run against DeSantis for governor, on Sunday urged unvaccinated Floridians to get the shots. She said she was heartened by a recent uptick in vaccinations in the state.

"We are already behind the curve and in a worse spot every time the numbers come out," Fried said at a news conference in Tallahassee. "This surge is and will impact every single one of us."

Throughout Florida, from Jacksonville to Miami to Tampa, hospitals have become overwhelmed.

ACROSS THE NATION

4 killed in helicopter crash in remote California region

COLUSA, Calif. (AP)—Four people aboard a helicopter were killed when it crashed Sunday in a remote area of Northern California, the Colusa County Sheriff's Department said. The department confirmed the deaths to the KXTV station. The four people died at the scene, said the department, which did not release their identities. The Robinson R66 crashed around 1:15 p.m. in Colusa County north of Sacramento, the Federal Aviation Administration said in a statement. "Preliminary reports indicate four people were on board," the statement said. The FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board will investigate.

Police: 10 shot in Queens by 2 men who fled on mopeds

NEW YORK (AP)—Two men strode up to a crowd outside a barbershop in the New York City borough of Queens and opened fire, wounding 10 people before fleeing on mopeds, police said Sunday morning. The shooting in the borough's Corona neighborhood took place just before 11 p.m. Saturday. The eight men and two women, who range in age from 19 to 72, were all hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries, according to police. The most seriously injured victim suffered a gunshot wound to the stomach, NYPD Chief of Detectives James Essig said. Police said the two gunmen arrived at the scene on foot, but left by jumping on the backs of two mopeds driven by two other men. All four were wearing hooded sweatshirts, police said. Three of those shot were known members of the Trinitarios, a Dominican street gang, and were the intended targets, Essig said. A party was in progress at a restaurant a few doors down from the barber-shop at the time of the shooting, he added.

Flood watches in US West as mudslides close major interstate

DENVER, Colo. (AP)—Mudslides from heavy rains caused "extreme damage" to a major interstate and left it blocked with piles of boulders and logs, Colorado transportation officials said Sunday, as forecasters warned of more flash floods in the coming days across the Rocky Mountain and Great Basin regions. The flood risk was elevated for many areas of the West where recent wildfires burned away vegetation and left hillsides more susceptible to erosion, the National Weather Service said. Interstate 70 in Glenwood Canyon, Colorado, was closed with no word on when it might re-open after being pounded by flash floods over a three-day period. Lanes in both directions remained blocked by debris that flowed out of the burn scar from a wildfire last year in the Grizzly Creek area. The torrent of rocks that came tumbling down the canyon's steep walls smashed apart sections of the concrete roadway and sheared off a long section of steel guardrail, photos provided by state officials showed.

Young TikTok star shot in California movie theater dies

CORONA, Calif. (AP)—A young TikTok star who had been on life support after he and a friend were shot inside a Southern California movie theater has died, police and his family said Saturday. Anthony Barajas, 19, was watching "The Forever Purge" at a theater in Corona with Rylee Goodrich, 18, on Monday when they were each shot in the head. They were found by an employee after the last showing of the night. Goodrich died at the scene. Barajas was taken to a nearby hospital, where he was placed on life support. Barajas, known online as itsanthonymichael, had nearly a million followers on TikTok and more on other platforms. The suspect acted alone, and there's no indication he knew the victims or that Barajas' role as a TikTok influencer played a role in the crime, Corona police Cpl. Tobias Kouroubacalis told reporters last week.

Asia

Kim's sister warns S. Korea-US drills will restart tensions

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un warned Sunday that next month's annual military drills between South Korea and U.S. troops will undermine prospects for better ties between the Koreas, just days after the rivals reopened their long-dormant communication channels. Kim Yo Jong's statement carried by state media targets only South Korea, and this could add credence to a theory that North Korea's decision to restore the communication lines is mainly aimed at pushing Seoul to convince Washington to make concessions while nuclear diplomacy remains deadlocked.

"For some days I have been hearing an unpleasant story that joint military exercises between the South Korean army and the U.S. forces could go ahead as scheduled," Kim Yo Jong said.

"I view this as an undesirable prelude which seriously undermines the will of the top leaders

of the North and the South wishing to see a step taken toward restoring mutual trust and which further beclouds the way ahead of the North-South relations," she said.

She added: "Our government and army will closely follow whether the South Korean side stages hostile war exercises in August or makes other bold decision."

Regular drills between Seoul and Washington have been a long-running source of animosities on the Korean Peninsula, with North Korea calling them an invasion rehearsal and responding with missile tests. South Korea and the U.S. have repeatedly said their drills are defensive in nature.

In the past few years, South Korea and the U.S. have canceled or downsized some of their exercises to support diplomatic efforts to end the North Korean nuclear crisis or because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Asked about prospects

for next month's summertime drills, Boo Seung-Chan, a spokesman at South Korea's Defense Ministry, told a briefing Thursday that Seoul and Washington were reviewing factors like the pandemic's current status, efforts to achieve denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula and their combined military readiness.

The U.S.-led diplomacy aimed at persuading North Korea to abandon its nuclear program in return for economic and political rewards hasn't made progress since a second summit between Kim Jong Un and then-President Donald Trump broke down because of disputes over U.S.-led sanctions in early 2019.

South Korea's government led by President Moon Jae-in, which wants greater reconciliations between the Koreas, had earlier shuttled between Pyongyang and Washington to arrange the first summit between Trump and Kim.

Refugees pushed to back of line amid vaccine shortages

NEW DELHI (AP)—Salimullah, a Rohingya refugee, has been living in the Indian capital of New Delhi since 2013 when he fled violence in Myanmar. Stateless, and now homeless after a fire razed his camp, the 35-year-old lives in a tent with as many as 10 other people at a time.

Before the pandemic, he ran a small business selling groceries from a shack. But that was closed during India's harsh, months-long lockdown, and his savings are gone. He and his family have been surviving on donated food, but he has to return to work soon, despite the risk of getting COVID-19 and infecting others.

Although some refugees in India have begun getting vaccines, no one in his camp has received shots. Just over 7% of India's population is fully vaccinated and vaccine shortages have plagued the nation of almost 1.4 billion.

"The disease doesn't discriminate. If we get infected, locals will also," Salimullah said.

It wasn't supposed to be like this.

For months the World Health Organization urged countries to prioritize immunizing refugees, placing them in the second priority group for at-risk people, alongside those with



A Rohingya activist distributes new clothes among refugees at a refugee camp alongside the banks of the Yamuna River in the southeastern borders of the sprawling Indian capital, New Delhi, July 1, 2021.

serious health conditions.

That's because refugees inevitably live in crowded conditions where the virus can spread more easily, with little access to the most basic health care or even clean water, said Sajjad Malik director of the U.N. refugee agency's division of resilience and solutions.

"They are really living in difficult situations," he said.

Over 160 countries included refugees in their plans, but these have been upended by supply shortages. According to the WHO, some 85% of vaccines have been administered by rich countries. In contrast, 85% of the world's 26 million refugees live in developing countries struggling to vaccinate even the

most vulnerable, according to the U.N. refugee agency.

Some countries, like Bangladesh, pinned their hopes on COVAX, the global initiative aimed at vaccine equity. In February, it altered its original vaccination plan to include nearly 1 million Rohingya refugees in crowded camps on the country's border with Myanmar. But so far, it's received only 100,620 doses—less than 1% of its allocated shots—from COVAX, leaving Rohingya refugees without.

COVAX hasn't only faltered in Bangladesh. Globally the initiative has delivered less than 8% of the 2 billion vaccine doses it had promised by the end this year.

World

Tourists and villagers flee as fires ravage Turkish resorts



Tourists wait to be evacuated from smoke-engulfed Mazi area as wildfires rolled down the hill toward the seashore, in Bodrum, Mugla, Turkey, Sunday, Aug. 1, 2021.

MAZIKOY, Turkey (AP)—Wildfires raged near Turkey's holiday beach destinations of Antalya and Mugla and in the surrounding countryside for a fifth day Sunday as the discovery of more bodies raised the death toll to eight while villagers lost their homes and animals. Residents and tourists fled the danger in small boats while the coast guard and two navy ships waited out at sea in case a bigger evacuation was needed.

Fires also enveloped Mugla province's Mazikoy, and villagers who evacuated were devastated.

Farmer Nurten Almaz said she lost everything. "I feel so much pain, like I lost a child," she said. The 63-year-old woman lost her animals and her

home as well as "one century of people's labor." She called for the death penalty for people who may have caused the fire.

Residents had to flee nearby Cokertme village as flames neared. Some got on boats and others left by cars as the fire got closer and closer. In one video, fire trucks and cars were rushing to escape fire raging on all sides. After nightfall, the village looked apocalyptic from a distance, with flames taking over the dark hills.

Bodrum mayor Ahmet Aras said Sunday evening that people experienced "hell" near Cokertme and Mazi as they drove away from the fire. He said the blaze could not be stopped and hoped to protect residential areas but said it

was too late for the trees.

The area was engulfed by Sunday night, Turkish broadcasters said. Reporters said they had to get hurry to safety as the fire intensified with strong winds. Officials said precautions were being taken to protect two thermic power plants in the vicinity and at present the winds were blowing away from the plants.

Authorities warned tourists and residents to keep evacuating Turunc, a town in the seaside resort of Marmaris in Mugla province. Fires enveloped the area and strong winds made firefighting efforts more difficult. A helicopter attempted to extinguish the blazes, which were unreachable by land.

WORLD BRIEFS

US, UK and Israel blame Iran for ship attack; Tehran denies

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The United States and the United Kingdom joined Israel on Sunday in alleging Iran carried out a fatal drone strike on an oil tanker off the coast of Oman in the Arabian Sea, putting further pressure on Tehran as it denied being involved in the assault. Calling it a "unlawful and callous attack," British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said his country and its allies planned a coordinated response over the strike Thursday night on the oil tanker Mercer Street. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken soon followed, saying there was "no justification for this attack, which follows a pattern of attacks and other belligerent behavior." The strike on the Mercer Street marked the first-known fatal attack after years of assaults

on commercial shipping in the region linked to tensions with Iran over its tattered nuclear deal. While no one has claimed responsibility for the attack, Iran and its militia allies have used so-called "suicide" drones in attacks previously, which crash into targets and detonate their explosive payloads. However, Israel, the U.K. and the responding U.S. Navy have yet to show physical evidence from the strike or offer intelligence information on why they blame Tehran.

Belarus runner alleges Olympic team tried to send her home

TOKYO (AP)—A Belarus track sprinter alleged her Olympic team tried to remove her from Japan in a dispute that led to a standoff Sunday evening at Tokyo's main airport. An activist group supporting Krystsina Tsimanouskaya said she be-

lieved her life was in danger in Belarus and would seek asylum with the Austrian Embassy in Tokyo. Tsimanouskaya said in a filmed message distributed on social media that she was pressured by Belarus team officials and asked the International Olympic Committee for help. "I was put under pressure and they are trying to forcibly take me out of the country without my consent," the 24-year-old runner said. Tsimanouskaya, who is due to run in the Olympic 200-meter heats Monday, criticized Belarus team officials on her Instagram account. She said she'd been put in the 4x400 relay despite never racing the event. The Belarusian Sport Solidarity Foundation said government supporters targeted the athlete, and Tsimanouskaya contacted the group for help to avoid what she feared was a forced deportation to Minsk.

Overdrive

Honda improves America's favorite compact sedan for 2022

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

How many compact sedans did the former Big Three build last year? None. Zero. Zip. It's as if they imperiously decreed that Americans no longer needed them. But what if you prefer a compact car?

Last year, Americans bought approximately one million compact cars, of which 261,225 were Honda Civics, the most popular car in the segment. American automakers, content on building more profitable SUVs and pickup trucks, are ignoring a critical segment.

It's remarkable that neither General Motors nor Ford, both in business for more than a century, can build a car to compete in this segment. Then again, few companies have lavished the resources Honda has on its Civic, slowly building it into a mainstay of its lineup, despite the growing popularity of SUVs, aka station wagons on stilts. It's certainly true for the redesigned 2022 Honda Civic sedan, the 11th generation of a car that proves the merits of a well-designed sedan. Yes, there will be performance variants, and a coupe. Detroit may have forgotten what some car buyers like, but Honda hasn't. The company doesn't treat car buyers like second class citizens, something Detroit is becoming adept at in its rush to kowtow to truck buyers at all costs.

The funny thing is that a new Honda Civic is now treated as a very newsworthy event. Yet the car itself is never daringly different from what came be-



The 2022 Honda Civic Sedan Touring.

fore, a creature of careful evolution, not revolution. Designers maximized space for homo sapiens while minimizing machinery. They tried to endow the new Civic with a low hood and front fenders that characterized the car's glorious past, despite regulations that make that difficult. They succeeded somewhat, helped by a low horizontal beltline on the body. But the overall stance of the vehicle has a newfound seriousness that pushes its look somewhat upmarket. Credit the windshield, which is more upright than last year, which allows for a longer hood, giving it a more mature appearance. It's far less polarizing

than its outlandishly juvenile-looking predecessor.

That hint of upscale allure continues inside, with a horizontally oriented dashboard accented by a unique honeycomb texture that smartly hides the air-conditioning. It's a masterful work of design, a sporty yet sophisticated design flourish of the sort not typically used in Civics. It sets the tone for the rest of the cabin, which feels even more grown up than before, yet every bit as easy to use.

A seven-inch color touchscreen with Apple CarPlay & Android Auto is standard. A nine-inch color HD touchscreen with wireless Apple

CarPlay & Android Auto are optional. Top-of-the-line Touring models get a customizable 10.2 LCD digital color instrument cluster, a first for the Civic. Wireless smartphone charging, a navigation system and, in another first for the Civic, a Bose 12-speaker audio system, are optional. The infotainment screen is easier to use than past iterations, but still fails to equal that of the best systems in design. Its cluttered design makes it hard to use at a glance.

Overall cabin space feels largely the same as before, despite a 1.4-inch longer wheelbase, and 1.3 inches of added

overall length. Space is generous up front, and above average in the rear.

When comes time to drive, you'll find Civic LX and Sport models come with a 2.0-liter four-cylinder generating 158 horsepower and 138 pound-feet of torque with standard stop/start capability and a continuously variable automatic transmission, also known as a CVT. Tonier Civic EX and Touring are powered by a 1.5-liter turbocharged four making 180 horsepower and 177 pound-feet of torque, an increase of 6 horsepower and 15 pound-feet of torque from last year. A CVT transmission is stan-

NUTS & BOLTS

- Base price: \$22,715-\$29,317
- Engine: Turbocharged 1.5-liter four-cylinder
- Horsepower/Torque: 180/177 pound-feet of torque
- EPA fuel economy (city/highway): 31/38 mpg
- Length/Width/Height: 184/70.9/55.7 inches
- Cargo capacity: 14.4 cubic feet
- Towing capacity: Not rated

dard. A manual transmission is not available on the Civic sedan but should be once Si and Type R models are introduced. In the meantime, Sport and Touring models get a driver-selectable Sport driving mode that other Civic sedans lack, changing the drive ratios and mapping for a sportier feel.

Given that the platform carries over, its feel is largely the same as before, with a comfortable ride that doesn't come at the expense of handling. It has the planted feel you expect, with nimbleness and sufficient power to make everyday driving enjoyable. That said, the CVT transmission, while better than most, still robs this car of some of the fun character it once possessed. And road noise can be punishingly loud on some road surfaces, a longtime Civic problem.

Still, the Civic feels a lot more grown up than the car it replaced. Its styling is far more pleasing, a trait that only enhances the good qualities that have found favor with so many compact car enthusiasts.

Brake booster likely cause of starting trouble

Q: My 2015 Honda Accord is having random starting problems. The brake pedal is too stiff to depress and then pushing the start button proves useless. Usually, this condition self-corrects after several minutes of waiting. This happens randomly following no discernible pattern. My long-time trusty mechanic is thoroughly flummoxed by the problem and, reluctantly, has referred me to the dealer. Before I approach the dealer, can you help?

A: There is most likely a problem with the brake booster. The booster provides the power for power brakes. With the engine off, the booster should have enough residual vacuum boost for two or three power pedal pushes. The culprit is probably the booster or its check valve.

Q: I was in Wisconsin over the weekend, and happened upon unleaded gas that had no ethanol in it. Of course it was a bit more expensive than the ethanol version, but I also got over 10% better gas mileage. Knowing that ethanol gas is really not the best for engines, and that farmers should probably stop growing all that corn anyway, will consumers in Illinois soon be given the option of purchasing ethanol free gas? I would love it!

A: Don't hold your breath. Chicago is one of EPA's Metropolitan Statistical Areas that must comply with the requirement to

sell only oxygenated fuels. In other words, areas with pollution problems can't sell pure gasoline.

Q: I bought my father-in-law's 2010 Ford Fusion, since he can no longer drive. The headrests are fixed forward at a 30-degree angle, making it impossible for me to sit without my head forced forward at an uncomfortable angle, which restricts my view of the road. If I angle the seat back far enough to get my head erect, there is a large gap between my back and the seat. Raising and lowering the headrest does not help. I contacted my local Ford dealer, and they suggested ordering a 2013 headrest to see if it would fit, but they are unwilling to take the part back if it doesn't. Do you or your readers have a solution? Is there an aftermarket headrest available that will do the trick?

A: I believe that the newer headrest may replace the original. Carmakers don't make major changes on interior items. Making the headrest adjustable is a minor change. But rather than drop big money on a non-returnable part, check out auto parts recycling firms (formerly junk yards) or eBay. We have heard that some owners even turn the headrest backward and reinsert it.

Q: Would you be able to give me some recommendations for either homemade solutions or store-bought solutions for clearing up foggy headlight lenses?

MOTORMOUTH

By BOB WEBER
Tribune News Service

Bob Weber is a writer and mechanic who became an ASE-certified Master Automobile Technician in 1976. Send questions along with name and town to motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.



A: I have heard homemade hacks ranging from toothpaste to vinegar and baking soda to bug spray. We have tried toothpaste, both regular and gel, and all that it did was give them a fresh minty smell. I did not even try insect repellent because of what it once did to the plastic crystal of my Timex. Save the vinegar and baking soda for a grade school volcano show. I try to avoid endorsements, but I found a website that listed its choices of the best as: 3M Headlight Lens Restoration Kit (with Quick Clear Coat), Meguiar's Heavy Duty Headlight Restoration Kit, Turtle Wax Headlight Lens Restorer Kit, Sylvania Headlight Restoration Kit (with UV Block Clear Coat), Mothers NuLens Headlight Renewal Kit and Chemical Guys Headlight Restore and Protect.

Life & Style

MTV marks 40th anniversary with a new 'Moon Person' design

MTV is marking its 40th anniversary with a relaunch of its iconic image of an astronaut on the moon, with an MTV flag planted nearby.

On Sunday, the media network unveiled a large scale "Moon Person" during a ceremony at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida. The new design was inspired by a Moon Person image created this year by Kehinde Wiley, who painted the portrait of former Presi-

dent Barack Obama for the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. In an interview this week with The Associated Press, MTV Entertainment President and CEO Chris McCarthy said that the image of space travel fit well with the spirit of its young audience.

"This is our third generation that we're reinventing for. Gen Z is by far one of the most interesting, incredibly creative and optimistic generations," he said. "And so we thought, 'Let's go back to the origins and do it with NASA, but real-

ly do it about the next frontier, which represents generation Z and really represents a beautiful moon person that Kehinde built and where we're going to be heading next.'"

NASA footage of the historic Apollo 11 landing in 1969, with the MTV flag added to the mix, were the first images to appear on MTV back on August 1, 1981, and the first video was the Buggles' "Video Killed the Radio Star." MTV vastly expanded the power of visual images in the music industry and has since broadly

expanded its reach, broadcasting worldwide and adding such influential channels and programs as VH1, Comedy Central and the early reality show "The Real World."

After fans, reviewers, music industry leaders and such artists as David Bowie criticized the channel for airing videos of virtually only white performers in its first years, MTV began playing more Michael Jackson and other Black artists who proved highly popular. The hip-hop program "Yo! MTV Raps," which debuted in the U.S. in

1988, was lauded for highlighting a subculture which eventually became mass culture.

"I would be lying if I didn't say that we made mistakes along the way. One of the bigger mistakes in the early years was not playing enough diverse music," McCarthy said. "So we certainly have had our bumps in the road and made some mistakes. But the nice thing that I've always learned at MTV is we have no problem owning our mistakes, quickly correcting them and trying to do the right thing and always follow

where the audience is going."

MTV now has a vast presence on social media, with more than 700 million followers of MTV Entertainment.

"We launched as a video channel on what was the new medium of the time in 1981, which, hard to believe, that was cable," McCarthy said. "I think the fun and interesting thing about MTV ... is to constantly have to blow yourself up and forget everything you knew in order for us to recreate a brand new entity for each generation." (AP)

DaBaby booted from Lollapalooza after homophobic comments

CHICAGO (AP)—Rapper DaBaby was cut Sunday from Lollapalooza's closing lineup following crude and homophobic remarks he made last week at a Miami-area music festival.

The Grammy-nominated artist, whose name is Jonathan Kirk, had been scheduled as a closing act on the final night of the four-day music festival in downtown Chicago. Lollapalooza organizers tweeted Sunday that rapper Young Thug would perform at 9 p.m. instead.

"Lollapalooza was founded on diversity, inclusivity, respect, and love," organizers wrote. "With that in mind, DaBaby will no longer be performing at Grant Park tonight."

Festival organizers didn't immediately reply to a request for comment.

In recent days, artists including Madonna, Questlove and Elton John have denounced remarks DaBaby made during a performance last Sunday at Miami's Rolling Loud Festival.

'Jungle Cruise' sails atop box office despite COVID concerns

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Despite growing concerns over the delta variant, "Jungle Cruise" still drew moviegoers out to theaters during the film's opening weekend to sail atop the North American box office.

The Disney film starring Dwayne Johnson and Emily Blunt exceeded expectations by pulling in more than \$34.1 million over the weekend. The adventure movie was estimated to open with around \$25 million to \$30 million domestically, but it outpaced those numbers despite the surge in the coronavirus cases.

Globally, "Jungle Cruise" brought in a total of \$90 million, including \$27.6 million in the international box office and more than \$30 million from Disney Plus.

"In this pandemic-challenged market place, it overperformed," said Paul Dergarabedian, the senior media analyst for Comscore. "It didn't really seem like the streaming component hurt the box office in any significant way. The movie theater is still showing its resilience and ap-



This file image provided by Disney shows, from left, Jack Whitehall, Emily Blunt and Dwayne Johnson in a scene from "Jungle Cruise." DISNEY VIA AP

peal to moviegoers despite the fact that there's so much news everyday, most of it not moving in the right direction, in terms of the pandemic."

"Jungle Cruise" also earned five times more than "The Green Knight," which came in at No. 2 with \$6.78 million. The A24 film starring Dev Patel barely edged M. Night Shyamalan's "Old," which had \$6.76 million after scor-

ing the top spot last weekend.

"Black Widow" placed fourth after a past week of turmoil between Disney and the film's lead, Scarlett Johansson. The actor sued the studio over the film's streaming release, which she said breached her contract and deprived her of potential earnings.

Disney responded to Johansson's claim saying she received \$20 million in compen-

sation and that she benefited from Disney Plus' revenue.

Matt Damon's "Stillwater" opened at No. 5 with \$5.1 million but faced criticism as well. The drama film was blasted by Amanda Knox, who spoke out last week about her name being associated with the new movie, saying any connection rips off her story without her consent at the "expense of my reputation."

Knox called out the film's director Tom McCarthy in a series of tweets for using her name to promote the movie.

"Space Jam: A New Legacy" has progressively dropped to No. 6 after going No. 1 two weeks ago. "Snake Eyes" fell to seventh after the film starring Henry Golding as the warrior-in-training debuted No. 2 last week.

"F9: The Fast Saga" placed eighth at the box office. The film pulled in \$2.6 million and totaled more than \$168 million domestically after six weeks.

"Escape Room: Tournament of Champions" and "The Boss Baby: Family Business" rounded out the top 10.

Family: Zydeco musician Chris Ardoin shot while performing

COLFAX, La. (AP)—A Zydeco musician was shot in the back while performing at an event in central Louisiana, his wife said in a statement posted early Saturday on Facebook.

Chris Ardoin was performing as the Friday headliner at Zydeco Bike Fest when he was shot, his wife, Kerri, posted on his official Facebook page.

"Yes, unfortunately tonight he did get shot in the back on his right side while on stage," she wrote. "Doctors said thankfully he's a built guy. The bullet didn't penetrate his lung and stopped near his ribs. We are currently in the hospital. Please keep him in your prayers and will update you all later!!! Thanks."

Diabetic's monitor is more than an office annoyance

DEAR ABBY: "Disturbed in Texas" (June 5) was annoyed by the sound of a diabetic co-worker's "beeper" going off frequently. "Disturbed" may not fully understand this situation. The "beeper" is a continuous glucose monitor (CGM), which alerts insulin-dependent diabetics to any blood sugar levels that are out of range. Swift action may be required to correct these blood sugars, and it's vital that the diabetic receive these alerts.

Yes, if possible, the CGM should be put on vibrate in public settings so as not to disturb others. But in some situations, it's not possible or wise. Neuropathy can dull sensations, and an active environment may make the vibrations undetectable. I wonder about the frequency of these beeps as well. In my experience, alarms go off an average of two to five times in a 24-hour period—just a few short beeps that can be canceled when the diabetic is made aware of the need to treat their glucose.

In my opinion, this is no more annoying than many office interruptions—watercooler gossip, phones ringing in the next cubicle, someone next door with an active cold, etc. Insulin-dependent diabetes is an unrelenting disease. There are no breaks. (I know this firsthand. I care for a Type 1 diabetic child who is not yet old enough to appropriately respond to alarms.)

One should not use their diabetes as an excuse to annoy oth-

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



ers but, on the other hand, people with diabetes—and other chronic diseases—need a little understanding, too. Life can get very hard. Sometimes the best way to achieve understanding is to educate, which I'm hoping to do with this submission. Thanks, Abby.

SENSITIVE IN SOUTH DAKOTA

DEAR SENSITIVE: No, dear reader, thank YOU for taking the time to explain this to me and my readers. I now have a better understanding about how complicated a process managing diabetes can be. And I agree that sometimes it's important to cut a little slack for others.

DEAR ABBY: Every year I have a garage sale. I have a good friend who without fail not only doesn't help but expects to place her stuff in the sale. I am then responsible for keeping track of her items and paying her at the end. Sometimes she has put big-ticket items, like a boat, in the sale and I have to call her whenever there's a lower offer. How do I tell her to have her own garage sale without causing hurt feelings?

UNLOADING IN MICHIGAN

DEAR UNLOADING: Your friend has a lot of nerve. Tell her that unless she's willing to help you with the yard sale and keep track of her own items, she should hold one of her own. Alternatively, suggest you will take a percentage of the money her items bring in—to compensate you for your work, which is significant. Do not worry about hurting her feelings. She has a thick hide.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



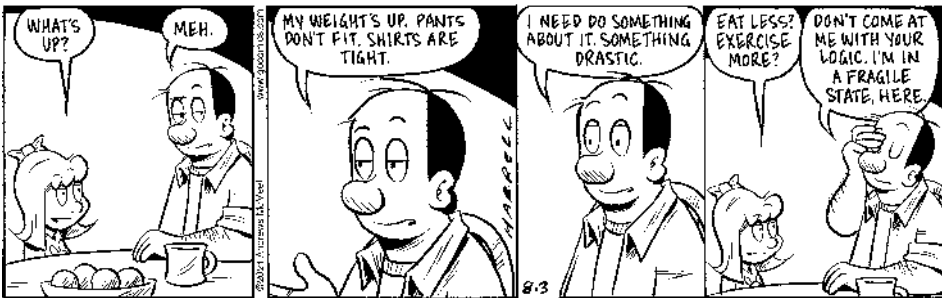
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



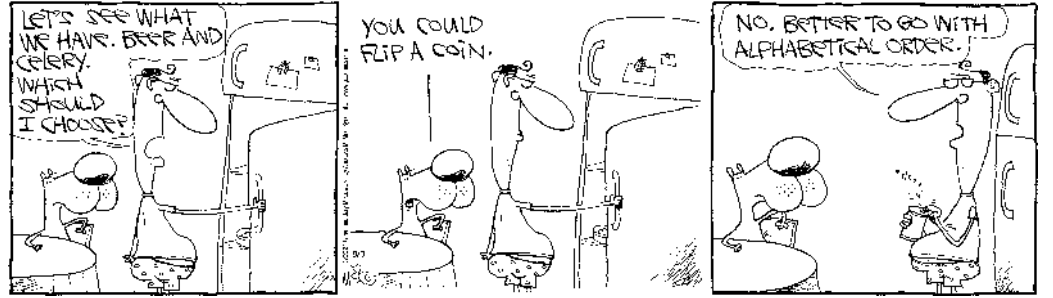
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pal
5 Jokester
8 The Mets' old home
12 Prefix with pilot
13 "West-world" network
14 Egg
15 Well-versed competitor?
17 Toward the rising sun
18 "So there!"
19 Decay
20 Brother of Moses
21 Enervate
22 Mork's planet
23 Southpaw
26 Car protectors
30 Pac-12 team
31 Favorite
32 Sicilian peak
33 Bravery
35 Bas-relief medium
36 Unpaid TV spot
37 Tibetan bovine
38 Illuminated

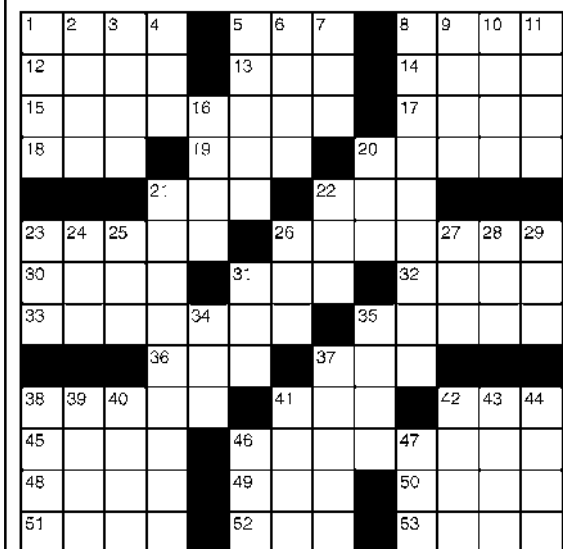
DOWN

41 Dawn goddess
42 Ripken of baseball
45 Now, on a memo
46 Surveillance aircraft
48 Actress Hatcher
49 2016 Olympics city
50 Apple product
51 Barking mammal
52 Rm. coolers
53 "The Mule" actor Michael

2 Luau dance
3 Hexagonal state
4 Off-tattooed word
5 Jubilant shout
6 Help a crook
7 Inherited
8 Preview
9 Get wind of
10 Old U.S. gas brand
11 Envelope abbr.
16 Use a rosary
20 Pitcher's pride
21 Outstanding student
22 Ump's call
23 Jean-Picard
24 Author Umberto
25 Winter ailment
26 Spell-off
27 UFO crew
28 ICU workers
29 — Paulo, Brazil
31 Links org.
34 Cleo's slayer
35 React in horror
37 Toys on strings
38 Back muscles, for short
39 "Understood"
40 Skater Lipinski
41 Grand tale
42 Superhero's garment
43 Soon, poetically
44 Castor's mother
46 Span. lady
47 Back talk

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 8-3



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Evangeline Lilly, 42; Michael Ealy, 48; Martha Stewart, 80; Tony Bennett, 95.

Happy Birthday: Your generosity and kindness are honorable, but don't lose sight of your needs and the risks involved when you allow relationships to become imbalanced. Don't let anyone take advantage of you. Observe how others react and give back. Equality matters if you want to maintain good working and personal relationships. Take an aggressive position regarding financial, medical and legal matters. Your numbers are 8, 12, 19, 24, 28, 34, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Express yourself and initiate plans. A friend or relative will have suggestions that need careful consideration. Say no to unsafe situations, health risks and emotional manipulation. Opportunities should benefit everyone involved. Protect your reputation and position. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may not welcome change, but it will be a wake-up call to tidy up loose ends. A lecture from a friend or relative will be insightful and encourage you to take physical action to improve your lifestyle. Make health a priority. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep your thoughts and feelings to yourself. Sharing information will give someone a competitive edge. Reveal what's necessary, and work diligently to achieve superior results. Sidestep emotional interference by doing things for yourself. Say no to temptation and indulgence. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take the initiative to put your ideas in motion. Refuse

to let the decisions or changes others make disrupt your day. Follow through as planned, and you'll discover how much better things turn out when you follow your heart and instincts. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Get involved in something that moves you. Helping others will encourage you to see life through a different lens. Make a change to your daily routine that will stabilize your life and bring you closer to the ones you love. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Embrace what you can accomplish, and walk away from situations that are bringing you down. Discipline and hard work geared toward looking and feeling your best will lift your spirits and help you attract people who offer positive support. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Ask an expert. Let your mind wander as your imagination takes over and your plans fall into place. An adventure will spark your interest and revive your enthusiasm for life, love and learning. Positive transformation begins with informative discussions. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Deal with friends, relatives and peers diplomatically. People who don't share the same beliefs or opinions will be looking for a fight. Think outside the box, and you'll find solutions that will suit everyone. Take care of your health and emotional well-being. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Pay attention to the way you handle your finances. Keeping tabs on what things cost and how you can reduce your overhead will bring

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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you peace of mind. Don't take unnecessary physical risks that can result in injury or illness. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Embrace change and don't look back. Focus on health, fitness and putting deals in place to ease stress and secure better days ahead financially. A disciplined approach to work and getting along with your peers will pay off. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Turn your home into a place of comfort. Relaxation will encourage a healthy attitude and a clear mind. Knowing what you want will help you avoid being a follower. Consider what makes you happy. Be frank regarding your intentions. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Strive to control emotional mayhem. Stay calm and be a good listener. Once you understand how others feel, it will be easier to come up with a workable solution. Nurture relationships that matter to you. Romance is encouraged. ★★

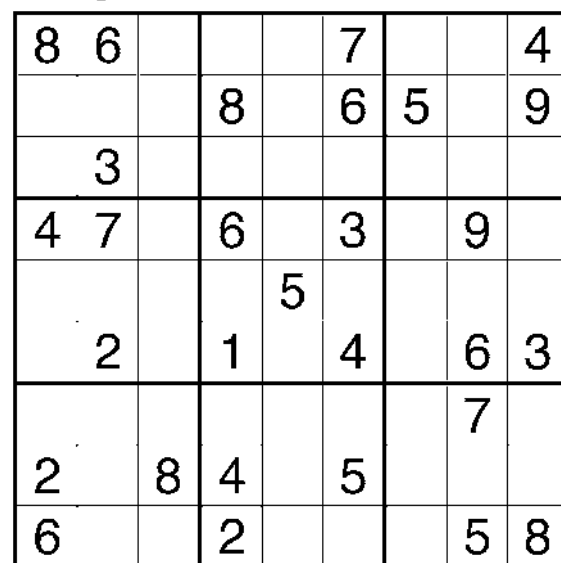
Birthday Baby: You are compassionate, resilient and curious. You are resourceful and precise. ★★

★ Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★ You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★ Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★★ Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★ Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



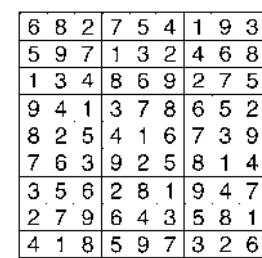
Difficulty Level ★★

8/03

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them: circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

POLYPROPYLENE

Solution: 9 letters



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Atactic, Basin, Basket, Block, Carpets, Chain, Containers, Cost, Crate, Cups, Dress, Durable, Ethylene, Filter, Foam, Glasses, Gloves, Gue, Growth, Isotactic, Labeling, Layer, Lids, Liner, Mask, Mats, Melting, Molding, Moromers, Netting, Packaging, Paper, Plates, Ransom, Resin, Ropes, Rugs, Sink, Table, Tarp, Textiles, Thermoplastic, Toys, Twine, White

Yesterday's Answer: Confirmation

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 47 through 62 order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Camacho-Quinn keeps Harrison, US out of win column at track



TOKYO (AP)—Considering where she was for the last Olympics—sitting at home—100-meter hurdler Keni Harrison couldn't complain about the silver medal she won this time around. Still, in this event, Americans are used to gold.

Maybe they were looking in the wrong place.

Jasmine Camacho-Quinn, who grew up in South Carolina, went to college at Kentucky and trains in Florida, is taking the hurdles gold to her mother's native Puerto Rico after an upset Monday that kept the Americans out of the win column as Olympic track reached Day 4.

"This was what I wanted for this year. I wanted to be a gold medalist," Camacho-Quinn said.

She powered ahead of Harrison early and finished in 12.37 seconds for a .15 second win — a blowout in such a short race. Megan Tapper of Jamaica finished third.

Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory that competes under its own flag at the Olympics, now has one more track gold medal than the deepest team at the Games, which won 13 golds five years ago in Rio de Janeiro.

Camacho-Quinn's best time coming into the Olympics was 12.38. She ran an Olympic-record 12.26 in the semifinals that ranks fourth on the all-time list.

Some of this improvement can be credited to coach John Coghlan, who started working with Camacho-Quinn last December, studied the film and saw her potential.

"I was like, 'If she can fix X, Y and Z, she can run really fast,'" Coghlan said.

Now, she is an Olympic champion.

Harrison has silver, and still holds the world record of 12.2.

The buildup to that mark set in 2016 played out awkwardly.

In what is generally considered the most stacked event on the toughest team to make, Harrison finished sixth at Olympic trials and was denied the trip to Rio. A few weeks later, she traveled to London and set the world record, then returned home to watch the Americans sweep the podium.

Given that, Harrison said the silver felt like a win.

"To miss out in Rio and then come to my first Olympics and get a silver medal—of course, everyone wants the gold, but I got myself back out here on this world stage and I'm getting better and better," she said.

None of the Americans from the 2016 sweep—Brian-na Rollins-McNeal, Nia Ali or Kristi Castlin—was in Tokyo,



Jasmine Camacho-Quinn, of Puerto Rico celebrates after winning the gold in the women's 100-meters hurdles final at the 2020 Summer Olympics, Monday, Aug. 2, 2021, in Tokyo, Japan. AP

but this still felt like an event for the U.S. to finally break its string of no gold medals on the

track in Japan.

The Americans had won three of the last four wom-

en's 100-meter hurdles at the Games, including the 2008 shocker by Dawn Harper after

the buildup had been pointed toward Lolo Jones.

That spoke to the depth of

At an extraordinary Olympics, acts of kindness abound

TOKYO (AP)—A surfer jumping in to translate for the rival who'd just beaten him. Long-jumping friends agreeing to share a gold medal rather than move to a tiebreaker. Two runners falling in a tangle of legs, then helping each other to the finish line.

In an extraordinary Olympic Games where mental health has been front and center, acts of kindness are everywhere. The world's most competitive athletes have been captured showing gentleness and warmth to one another—celebrating, pep-talking, wiping away one another's tears of disappointment.

Kanoa Igarashi of Japan was disappointed when he lost to Brazilian Italo Ferreira in their sport's Olympic debut.

Not only did he blow his shot at gold on the beach he grew up surfing, he was also being taunted online by racist Brazilian trolls.

The Japanese-American surfer could have stewed in silence, but he instead deployed his knowledge of Portuguese, helping to translate a press conference question for Ferreira on the world stage.

The crowd giggled hearing the cross-rival translation and an official thanked the silver medalist for the assist.

"Yes, thank you, Kanoa," said a beaming Ferreira, who is learning English.

Days later, at the Olympic Stadium, Gianmarco Tamberi of Italy and Mutaz Barshim of Qatar found themselves in a situation they'd talked about but never experienced—they were tied.

Both high jumpers were perfect until the bar was set to the Olympic-record height of 2.39 meters (7 feet, 10 inches). Each missed three times.

They could have gone to a jump-off, but instead decided to share the gold.

"I know for a fact that for the performance I did, I deserve that gold. He did the same thing, so I know he deserved that gold," Barshim said. "This is beyond sport. This is the message we deliver to the young generation."

After they decided, Tamberi slapped Barshim's hand and jumped into his arms.

"Sharing with a friend is even more beautiful," Tamberi said. "It was just magical."

Earlier, on the same track, runners Isaiah Jewett of the U.S. and Nijel Amos of Botswana got tangled and fell during the 800-meter semifinals. Rather than get angry, they helped each other to their feet, put their arms around each other and finished together.

Many top athletes come to know each other personally from their time on the road, which can feel long, concentrated, and intense—marked by career moments that may be

the best or worst of their lives.

Those feelings have often been amplified at the pandemic-delayed Tokyo Games, where there is an unmistakable yearning for normalcy and, perhaps, a newfound appreciation for seeing familiar faces.

Restrictions designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have meant Olympians can't mingle the way they normally do.

After a hard-fought, three-set victory in the beach volleyball round-robin final on Saturday at Shiokaze Park, Brazilian Rebecca Cavalcanti playfully poured a bottle of water on American Kelly Claes' back as she did post-game interviews.

The U.S. team had just defeated Brazil but the winners laughed it off, explaining that they're friends.

"I'm excited when quarantine's done so we can sit at the same table and go to dinner with them. But it's kind of hard in a bubble because we have to be away," said Sarah Sponcil, Claes' teammate.

For fellow American Carissa Moore, the pandemic and its accompanying restrictions brought her closer with the other surfers.

The reigning world champion said she typically travels to surfing competitions with her husband and father. But all fans were banned this year, and Moore admitted she

struggled without their reassuring presence in the initial days of the Games.

Moore had flown to Japan with the U.S. team 10 days before the first heat, and soon adjusted to living in a home with the other surfers, including Caroline Marks, whom Moore considered the woman to beat.

Moore said she didn't know Marks well before the Tokyo Games but on the night she was crowned the winner and Marks came in fourth, her rival was the first to greet her.

"Having the USA Surf team with me, it's been such a beautiful experience to bond with them," Moore said. "I feel like I have a whole another family after the last two weeks."

After the punishing women's triathlon last week in Tokyo, Norwegian Lotte Miller, who placed 24th, took a moment to give a pep talk to Belgium's Claire Michel, who was inconsolable and slumped on the ground, sobbing.

Michel had come in last, 15 minutes behind winner Flora Duffy of Bermuda—but at least she finished. Fifty-four athletes started the race but 20 were either lapped or dropped out.

"You're a (expletive) fighter," Miller told Michel. "This is Olympic spirit, and you've got it 100%."

American hurdles.

Turns out, Puerto Rico is tapping into that talent, as well.

Camacho-Quinn, whose brother, Robert, plays in the NFL, said her college coaches told her to head to the U.S. Olympic trials back in 2016—not so much to win a spot on the team, but just to see what it was like to compete against professionals.

Then she learned she could qualify to run for Puerto Rico, the island territory with which she has deep roots because of her mom's side of the family.

"I didn't understand track like that," she said. "I just went out there and ran."

All the way to the Puerto Rican team. And so, a star was born.

She was running in Rio in 2016 when she clipped the ninth hurdle in the semifinal to send her sprawling to the deck. She tries not to think about that.

"Somebody's always, 'Oh, I'm sorry for what happened,'" she said. "I'm like, 'I need y'all to let that go.'"

She moved on, and now it looks as though the U.S. team needs to do some recalibrating, as well. Though there is plenty of time left—only 10 of the 48 events were complete after Monday morning's session—a team that opens every Olympics with grand hopes has no gold medals.

One hopeful, Ju'Vaughn Harrison, finished fifth in the long jump hours after leaving the track Sunday night with a seventh-place finish in high jump.

The long jump gold went to Miltiadis Tentoglou of Greece, with two banged-up Cuban jumpers, Juan Miguel Echevarria and Maykel Masso, taking silver and bronze even after combining to pass on five of their 12 attempts.

Earlier in the week, the U.S. got shut out of the women's 100. It took silver (Fred Kerley) in the men's 100—a final that Trayvon Bromell didn't even qualify for after coming in favored for the gold. It took bronze in the new mixed 4x400 after choosing to sit Allyson Felix in an event she helped the U.S. dominate at world championships two years ago.

The U.S. had no clear favorites in Monday night's session, where there were finals in the men's steeplechase and the women's discus and 5,000 meters.

That 5,000-meter race featured Sifan Hassan of the Netherlands. Hassan ran in a 1,500-meter heat in the morning session and fell. She scooped herself back up to not only finish the race, but to win it outright.

Kris Bryant homers in SF debut, Giants beat Astros, 5-3

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Kris Bryant homered in his Giants debut, a two-out solo shot in the third inning, and San Francisco beat the Houston Astros 5-3 on Sunday.

Darin Ruf also homered for the Giants. They won two of three in the interleague matchup of division leaders and have the best record in the majors at 66-39.

Acquired in a trade from the Chicago Cubs for two minor league prospects just minutes before Friday's deadline, Bryant was greeted by chants of "KB!, KB!" when he trotted onto the field for pregame warmups and received a standing ovation before his first at-bat. The four-time All-Star was cheered again after striking out swinging.

Those cheers got louder after Bryant crushed an 0-1 pitch from Luis García (7-6) into the left field stands for his 19th home run this season.

Logan Webb (5-3) allowed two runs in six innings to stay unbeaten since May 5. Jake McGee pitched the ninth for his 23rd save.

Yuli Gurriel homered for Houston.

Yankees 3, Marlins 1

In Miami, Anthony Rizzo continued his remarkable debut with the Yankees with another key hit and New York completed a three-game sweep of Miami.

The partisan New York crowd in Miami finally got to cheer when the Yankees had an eighth-inning rally highlighted by RBI singles from Rizzo and Aaron Judge.

Rizzo, who went to high school in the Miami area, singled home Brett Gardner for the tying run in his third game with the Yankees. The first baseman was acquired in a trade from the Chicago Cubs at the trade deadline and hit a homer in each of his first two games with New York before Sunday's clutch at-bat.

Joely Rodriguez (2-3) got the win in relief, and Aroldis Chapman retired the side in the ninth for his 22nd save. Anthony Bass (1-6) took the loss.

Rays 3, Red Sox 2

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Shane Bieber went six strong innings, Brandon Lowe homered and AL East-leading Tampa beat Boston for a three-game sweep.

McClanahan (5-4) allowed one run and four hits, helping the Rays take a 1 1/2-game lead over Boston.

Hunter Renfroe homered for the Red Sox. They have lost a season-high four in a row and five of six.

Kiké Hernández and Ra-



San Francisco Giants' Kris Bryant, left, hits a home run in front of Houston Astros' Martin Maldonado during the third inning of a baseball game in San Francisco, Sunday, Aug. 1, 2021. AP

fael Devers had consecutive two-out singles in the ninth off Matt Wisler, who then retired J.D. Martinez on a short fly to right for his first save.

Nick Pivetta (8-5) was the loser.

Reds 7, Mets 1

In New York, rookie Max Schrock went 5 for 5 with a home run while giving All-Star Joey Votto a break, leading fellow newcomer Vladimir Gutierrez and Cincinnati past New York.

Making his first major league start at first base, the 26-year-old Schrock—who's also made a relief pitching appearance this year—scored three runs and drove in two.

Votto got a rest from manager David Bell a day after his seven-game home run streak came to an end.

Gutierrez (6-3) allowed three hits in seven innings. His only blemish was a sixth-inning home run to Jeff McNeil.

In his second game with his new team, Javier Baez went hitless in four at-bats for the NL East-leading Mets. Marcus Stroman (7-10) was the loser.

Dodgers 13, Diamondbacks 0

In Phoenix, Albert Pujols doubled home three runs to cap a five-run second inning. Mookie Betts homered in his return from the injured list and Los Angeles hammered Arizona.

Betts, playing second base, returned to the lineup and had two hits, including his 15th homer of the season in the ninth. Julio Urias (13-3) pitched five scoreless innings.

Pujols' liner down the left-field line came with two outs on a full-count pitch, the 70th and last of the day from Caleb Smith (3-8). The Diamondbacks lefty lasted just 1 2/3 innings, giving up five runs while walking five and striking out three.

Justin Turner hit his 20th homer.

White Sox 2, Indians 1

In Chicago, Brian Goodwin homered with one out in the ninth inning to lift Chicago past Cleveland.

Goodwin hit a 3-1 pitch from Nick Wittgren (2-4) over the wall in right.

Liam Hendriks (5-2) allowed just one hit in the ninth to complete a scoreless six-inning stint by the Chicago bullpen. Chicago won two of three in the series to extend its AL Central lead to nine games.

Myles Straw homered for the Indians.

Brewers 2, Braves 1

In Atlanta, Willy Adames hit an early homer off Charlie Morton, Brett Anderson pitched 5 2/3 strong innings and Milwaukee beat Atlanta.

The NL Central-leading Brewers moved 20 games over .500 for the second time this season. They improved to 34-19 away from Milwaukee and have won 13 of 17 road series this season.

Anderson improved to 4-5. Josh Hader, in his first save opportunity since July 8, retired the side in order in the ninth to earn his 22nd save in 23 chances. Morton dropped to 10-4.

Blue Jays 5, Royals 1

In Toronto, José Berríos pitched six shutout innings in his Toronto debut and the Blue Jays completed a three-game sweep in their first series north of the border since 2019, beating Kansas City.

Marcus Semien and Santiago Espinal homered to back Toronto's big-name newcomer. Acquired from Minnesota at the trade deadline Friday for two minor leaguers, Berríos (8-5) allowed five hits.

Trevor Richards retired all four batters he faced and Tim Mayza got the last five outs as

Toronto won for the fifth time in six games.

The Blue Jays returned to Canada on Friday after having played the entire 2020 season and the first half of 2021 in both Buffalo and Dunedin, Florida, because of border restrictions.

Tigers 6, Orioles 2

In Detroit, Eric Haase hit a two-run double in a three-run first inning and Detroit beat Baltimore.

Detroit earned a split of the four-game series, improving to 30-24 at home this season. The Tigers tied a major league record with 59 home losses in 2019, baseball's most recent full season.

Erasmio Ramirez (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings to pick up his first major league win since Sept. 3, 2018, when he beat the Orioles as a member of the Seattle Mariners.

Phillies 15, Pirates 4

In Pittsburgh, Kyle Gibson pitched into the seventh inning in his Philadelphia debut and got plenty of support to help the Phillies rout Pittsburgh.

J.T. Realmuto had five of the Phillies' 20 hits, with two doubles and four RBIs. Bryce Harper hit three of Philadelphia's nine doubles and Jean Segura doubled twice and drove in three runs.

The Phillies got Gibson (7-3) and pitcher Ian Kennedy from Texas in a deadline deal Friday for rookie right-hander Spencer Howard and two other pitching prospects.

Cardinals 7, Twins 3

In St. Louis, Adam Wainwright threw seven effective innings and rookie Edmundo Sosa homered to help St. Louis beat Minnesota.

Wainwright (9-6) allowed three runs and six hits in an 85-pitch stint. He struck out five and walked one. Alex Reyes picked up his 25th save

in 26 opportunities with a 1-2-3 ninth inning.

Jorge Polanco homered for the Twins. Michael Pineda (4-6) took the loss.

Nationals 6, Cubs 5

In Washington, Yadiel Hernandez's solo shot in the ninth inning—his second homer of the day—gave Washington the victory over Chicago.

Hernandez had a four-hit day to help the Nationals overcome three home runs by Rafael Ortega. Chicago following trade deadline selloffs that scattered many of the players who helped both teams win the World Series recently.

Ortega tied a franchise record for homers in a game, leading off with a shot to right-center and adding two-run blasts in the sixth and eighth. He was the first Cub with a three-homer game since Kris Bryant on May 17, 2019, also against the Nationals.

Athletics 8, Angels 3

In Anaheim, Calif., Yan Gomes homered in his Oakland debut, fellow newcomer Starling Marte had three hits and stole three bases, and the Athletics beat Los Angeles.

Gomes, acquired from Washington at the trade deadline Friday, hit a two-run homer. Marte joined the A's a couple days earlier in a trade with Miami.

Daulton Jefferies (1-0) earned his first major league victory, allowing three runs and three hits in five innings.

Reid Detmers (0-1) lost in his big league debut. The 22-year-old lefty was the 10th overall pick in the 2020 draft.

Rangers 4, Mariners 3

In Arlington, Texas, Jonah Heim hit his second walk-off homer in two games right after a tying, two-run shot from Andy Ibáñez in the ninth inning, and Texas rallied again to beat Seattle.

Heim and Ibáñez connected against reliever Erik Swanson (0-1), who hadn't allowed a run since now-former Texas slugger Joey Gallo went deep against him in the same ballpark May 8.

Padres 8, Rockies 1

In San Diego, Ha-Seong Kim homered and drove in three runs, Jake Cronenworth contributed three hits and San Diego beat Colorado.

The Padres were playing their second game since Fernando Tatis Jr. went on the injured list with a shoulder problem.

San Diego's Craig Stammen (5-2) earned the win in relief, retiring the side in order in the one inning he pitched. Rockies starter Austin Gomber (8-6) lasted only one inning. He threw 40 pitches and gave up four runs, four hits and two walks.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

2020 TOKYO OLYMPICS MEDAL COUNT

	G	S	B	TOTAL
China	24	15	13	52
United States	20	24	16	60
Japan	17	5	9	31
Australia	14	3	14	31
ROC	12	19	13	44
Britain	10	10	12	32
France	5	10	6	21
South Korea	5	4	9	18
Italy	4	8	15	27
Germany	4	4	11	19
Netherlands	4	7	6	17
New Zealand	4	3	4	11
Czech Republic	4	3	1	8
Canada	3	4	7	14
Switzerland	3	4	5	12
Croatia	3	2	2	7
Taiwan	2	4	4	10
Brazil	2	3	5	10
Hungary	2	2	2	6
Slovenia	2	1	1	4
Ecuador	2	0	0	2
Greece	2	0	0	2
Kosovo	2	0	0	2
Qatar	2	0	0	2
Spain	1	3	3	7
Georgia	1	3	1	5
Austria	1	1	3	5
Romania	1	3	0	4
Sweden	1	3	0	4
Venezuela	1	3	0	4
Denmark	1	1	2	4
Indonesia	1	1	2	4
Jamaica	1	1	2	4
Serbia	1	1	2	4
Hong Kong	1	2	0	3
Slovakia	1	2	0	3
South Africa	1	2	0	3
Belgium	1	1	1	3
Norway	1	1	1	3
Ireland	1	0	2	3
Israel	1	0	2	3
Turkey	1	0	2	3
Poland	1	1	0	2
Tunisia	1	1	0	2
Belarus	1	0	1	2
Estonia	1	0	1	2
Fiji	1	0	1	2
Uzbekistan	1	0	1	2
Bermuda	1	0	0	1
Ethiopia	1	0	0	1
Iran	1	0	0	1
Latvia	1	0	0	1
Philippines	1	0	0	1
Puerto Rico	1	0	0	1
Thailand	1	0	0	1
Ukraine	0	1	5	6
Cuba	0	2	2	4
Colombia	0	2	1	3
Mongolia	0	1	2	3
Kazakhstan	0	0	3	3
Mexico	0	0	3	3
Dominican Republic	0	2	0	2
India	0	1	1	2
Portugal	0	1	1	2
San Marino	0	1	1	2
Uganda	0	1	1	2
Azerbaijan	0	0	2	2
Egypt	0	0	2	2
Bulgaria	0	1	0	1
Jordan	0	1	0	1
Macedonia	0	1	0	1
Turkmenistan	0	1	0	1
Argentina	0	0	1	1
Ivory Coast	0	0	1	1
Finland	0	0	1	1
Kuwait	0	0	1	1
Malaysia	0	0	1	1

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	64	42	.604	—
Boston	63	44	.589	1½
New York	56	48	.538	7
Toronto	54	48	.529	8
Baltimore	37	67	.356	26
Central Division				
Chicago	62	44	.585	—
Cleveland	51	51	.500	9
Detroit	51	57	.472	12
Kansas City	45	59	.433	16
Minnesota	44	62	.415	18
West Division				
Houston	64	42	.604	—
Oakland	60	47	.561	4½
Seattle	56	50	.528	8
Los Angeles	52	53	.495	11½
Texas	38	67	.362	25½
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
New York	55	49	.529	—
Philadelphia	52	53	.495	3½
Atlanta	52	54	.491	4
Washington	49	56	.467	6½
Miami	44	61	.419	11½
Central Division				
Milwaukee	63	43	.594	—
Cincinnati	56	50	.528	7
St. Louis	53	52	.505	9½
Chicago	51	56	.477	12½
Pittsburgh	40	65	.381	22½
West Division				
San Francisco	66	39	.629	—
Los Angeles	64	43	.598	3
San Diego	61	47	.565	6½
Colorado	46	60	.434	20½
Arizona	33	73	.311	33½



From left, Novice Class Top 3 edge Corry Pangelinan, Henry "Hanky Panky" Camacho Jr., and Kier Agda show off their plates/trophies during Marianas Racing Association's 2021 Monster Energy Point Series Race awards banquet last July 28 at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

MARK RABAGO

'Hanky Panky' lords it over Novice Class

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Henry "Hanky Panky" Camacho Jr. didn't mess around en route to winning the Novice Class of the Marianas Racing Association's 2021 Monster Energy Point Series Race held the past seven months at the Cow-Town Raceway Park in Marpi.

The 29-year-old got the much coveted No. 1 plate after totaling 301 points during the MRA awards banquet held last July 28 at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Riding his trusty 2020 Kawasaki 250F, Camacho finished No. 1 in the final two races to edge Corry Pangelinan for the Novice Class championship. Pangelinan settled for runner-up honors with 290 points, while Kier Agda came in third with 245 points.

Camacho, who first learned to ride aboard a 50cc bike when he was just 10 years old, said his victory in the Novice Class was just the start of his journey into motocross.

"It's always been a dream of mine to do well. Always tried to push myself. Winning is nice but knowing I've improved since Day 1 means more to me than the No. 1 plate. The

intermediate division will be the next step for this upcoming season," he said.

Camacho said like almost everyone on island, he drew his inspiration in motocross from his father, Henry Sr., as well as his brothers. He also thanked his wife for letting him compete in the dirt track. "I'm dedicating this championship to my wife, my son, and my parents for supporting my dream to ride again," he said.

In the Pee wee 1 Class, Ezekiel Camacho won with 298 points to edge Conan Iakopo who wound up with 279 points. Completing the Top 3 was Zane Fujihara with 271 points.

Jonoah Santos topped the Pee wee Class II with his 338 points. Keenon Togawa and T.J. Ferrer finished second and third with 286 points and 240 points, respectively.

First, second, and third place received \$200, \$150, and \$100 cash prizes, certificates of recognition, plus the No. 1, 2, and 3 plates that they can use for next season. First place also got a gigantic plastic cart from YCO True Value.

Results of the Power Puff and Veterans classes will be published in the next issue of *Saipan Tribune*.

tion. To go to the next level, the boys need to further improve technically, including their ability to play under pressure and work on small spaces. They also need to play with consistency throughout the 90-minute match and extra time," Mita said.

"Football is a team sport. We have to have quality individuals who can play as a team. If a player is technically good but cannot play as a part of a team, the team cannot make good combinations. In this camp, the boys played as a team and got good results," the NMIFA technical director added.

The training matches against Guam were a first for the NMI Boys U18 since the COVID-19 pandemic struck early last year and Mita thanked GFA for giving his players the opportunity to play outside Saipan.

Justin repeats; Kaya improves to No. 1

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Justin Ma proved that his July 10 win was no fluke while Kaya Braxton topped the girls 500m in the second installment of Saipan Swim Club's Triple Crown Open Water Swim Series last July 24 in the waters off the Civic Center Beach in Susupe.

Ma was like a dolphin possessed in the 500m open with a time of 6:23.51, which was a vast improvement to the 7:50.4 he submitted two weeks prior.

"Honestly, I never thought that I would actually win the second Triple Crown open water race. It was really tough but I was still able to pull through the competition. Shuman [Barman] was in front of me for most of the race but somehow I took what was left in my body and touched the flag first. After the ocean swim I made a promise to myself and that is to try my best every time. No matter the conditions I will always try my very best and give it all I've got," he said.

Barman, who like Ma swims for Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan and coach Hiro Kimura, settled for second place with a time of 6:27.11.

Richard Zhao completed the Top 3 with a time of 7:06.89.



From left, Kaya Braxton, Maria Guerrero, Nagisa Litulumar, Justin Ma, Shuman Barman, and Richard Zhou pose for a group shot after getting their medals in the 500m race of Saipan Swim Club's Triple Crown Open Water Swim Series last July 24 in the waters off the Civic Center Beach in Susupe.

MARK RABAGO

He swam an 8:47.4. last time out. "I really love this race. It was fun. Thank you coach Hiro for training me. I improved a lot from joining the open water race. I'm happy about the result, but I will train harder to improve it next time.

Braxton was first in the girls 500m with a superb time of 6:49.34 that was impressive considering she finished second at 8:33.8 in the first open water swim.

"I feel happy I got first place and I'm so glad my teammates placed also. While I was swimming, I felt so tired and nervous. But I didn't know that I got first place. I'm so happy and excited when I got the tro-

phy. My mom and dad got happy and excited too. I felt happy in that part," she said.

Nagisa Litulumar came in runner-up at 7:00.05 that like Braxton's was markedly faster than the 8:41.4 she swam in the first part of the open water swim.

"Last week's ocean swim was pretty tough for most of us including me. At that time when the ocean's current was getting stronger, I thought that I wouldn't make it but I did and I got a faster time. I hope to improve my time for the next September race," she said.

Maria Guerrero completed the Top 3 with a time of

7:27.63. "Since sea conditions were bad, it was harder to swim especially against the current but I placed third which I'm grateful for," she said.

The Triple Crown Open Water Swim Series was sanctioned by the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation and is the second of three events, which main purpose is to choose four swimmers (top two men and top two women) that will represent the CNMI in the 2021 FINA World Championships in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates this coming December.

Results of the 100m for advanced will be published in the next issue of *Saipan Tribune*.

TRENCH

From Page 20

The daughter of Stanley and Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla said she hopes to grow more in BJJ and is lucky to have Alvarez by her side to instruct her.

"My goals in this sport is to learn as much as I can to defend myself and continuously training to get better as an athlete, individual, and disciplining the mind. Professor Cuki always mentioned 'to never chase after the belt, the belt will come to you.' He is a phenomenal professor and instructor. I feel very blessed and proud of myself getting

promoted. Very eager and excited to only get better," said the incoming sophomore at Kagman High School.

Diaz said what attracts him the most to the martial art is how BJJ helped him develop both as a practitioner and as a person.

"BJJ develops you physically, mentally, and spiritually. I was also attracted by the whole concept how BJJ, especially Trench Tech, incorporates family values with self-defense. I really respect and admire professor Alvarez and appreciate everyone who helped me get this far," said the 16-year-old incoming junior at Saipan In-

ternational School.

He said his promotion to blue belt is just the start of his BJJ journey. "My short term goal is to compete. My long term goal is to continue my BJJ journey and hopefully the belt finds me."

Torres, the registrar for Instructional Technology & Distance Education at the Public School System, said it was a great honor to have been promoted to a blue belt in Brazilian jiu-jitsu.

"I will train hard and continue to pay my dues. It's been a great experience to learn from professor Cuki and the Trench Tech BJJ practitioners. I want to become more proficient in

the sport and be a good influence to those around me. I initially wanted to try BJJ to become more physically fit and learn self-defense. I'm grateful to have the opportunity to train here on Saipan and I highly encourage everyone to give it a try, the mats are open and the group is kind and welcoming, and the experience is one of a kind," said the 27-year-old.

Trench Tech offers BJJ kids classes ages 5-12 every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:35pm to 6:20pm and adult BJJ classes every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 6:30pm to 8pm. Call 670-783-4MMA for more details on how to enroll today.

MITA

From Page 20

are from a small island, but we play collectively, with discipline and confidence, and we give our 100%, we can compete against Guam," Mita said.

For their other training game, Mita's wards raced to a 2-0 lead and was still head at 3-1 early in the second half before Guam fought back and forced a draw. Taka Borja delivered the first goal for the NMI when he converted a header from a corner kick play, while Kohtarō Goto fired the last two goals for the visiting group. Guam U20 got its goals from Morgan McKenna, Brian Nakamine, and Levi Buckwalter.

"The team is not perfect, but has been showing good potential and is heading to right direc-

SANCHEZ

From Page 20

children. The event saw a little over 20 participants. "I'm happy to see the parents out with the kids, and that's my main goal as far as parental involvement," he said.

Weaver also said that the event was put together in about three weeks, as the Marianas Visitors Authority recently coordinated with TTT to put together a "kid's fishing derby" that would happen alongside MVA's Hafa Adai & Tirow Summer Jam also last Saturday. Despite the

relatively short time to plan and promote the youth fishing derby, Weaver was happy with how Saturday went.

"We were going back and forth with the Marianas Visitors Authority. ...Hopefully we get more notice [next time] that way we can promote [our event] a lot better and have more participants out here, but today, it's great," said Weaver.

TTT vice president Wayne Pangelinan said the Shoreline Fishing Derby is just the beginning and helps its effort in educating the youth about sustainable fishing.

"For now, we are hopeful

that we get a good number of participants as this ultimately supports our ongoing efforts to keep TTT's program moving forward. It will be interesting as some fishermen who plan to attend are eager to try out this tournament as it requires a two-fish species entry," he said.

According to its website, TTT is a non-profit corporation registered in the CNMI. Established in July of 2020, TTT engages the youth teachings on fishing methodologies, boating safety, environment protection and safeguarding as well as mental health of its youth. It first began with

a six-month program for the Da'Ok Academy in summer 2019, and started an eight-month program for Saipan's high school students in 2020. TTT launched Tinian and Rota branches this summer, first testing out a four-month pilot program with hopes to begin an eight-month program on both islands next school year. Students who participate and complete TTT's programs earn elective credit hours that go towards high school graduation.

For more information on Tasi to Table, call Weaver at 483-4363 or Pangelinan at 788-8057.



Camacho-Quinn keeps Harrison, US out of win column at track

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NMI players celebrate after Kaden Church (9) scored against Guam during their training match at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Dededo last Thursday night.
GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION PHOTO



The NMI's Taka Borja, right, battles possession against a Guam defender during their training match at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Dededo last Thursday night.
GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION PHOTO

Mita: NMI Boys U18 played as a team

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Head coach and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Michiteru Mita is pleased with the results of their training matches against Guam last week.

The NMI Boys U18 National Team earned a draw and a win in the pair of games at the Guam Football

Association National Training Center in Dededo and in both matches, Mita was proud of how the group



have been preaching since the pool was formed about two years ago. The NMI first dueled the Guam U20 Manhoben with last Tuesday's match ending in a draw, 3-3. Then in the second and last training match against Guam U17, the NMI pulled off a 2-1 victory.

Brian Lubao and Kaden Church

embraced the "team concept" that the coaching staff

delivered the two goals for the NMI in their close win over Guam U17 last Thursday. Lubao scored first off a pass from Church, who was hounded by a couple of Guam defenders and swung the ball over to his teammate that was left open a few steps in at right mid.

The NMI's second goal also came off a good passing play between Ariel Narvaez Jr. and Church. The NMI attacked with Guam's left defense intercepting a pass intended for Nar-

vaez, who managed to recover the possession and with two other Guam players closing in on him, he lobbed the ball to Church. The NMI forward used his body to receive the pass before taking the shot that missed the hand of the diving Guam goalie. After giving up two goals to the NMI, Guam could only counter with one, allowing the visiting team to escape with the win.

"The boys proved that even if we
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Trench Tech Gym promotes 3

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Trench Tech Gym has promoted Brazilian jiu-jitsu practitioners Filomenaleonisa Iakopo, Edward Andres S. Diaz, and Kevin De Torres to higher belts during simple rites at the Mihaville gym last Thursday.

BJJ black belt Cuki Alvarez said Iakopo was promoted to the rank of orange belt. "This is basically like a blue belt for teenagers under 16 years old. Filomenaleonisa just turned 15," he said.

Edward Diaz, meanwhile, was promoted to blue belt from orange belt. "He turned 16 a few months ago. Both he and Filomenaleonisa have been training at Trench Tech for about three years," said Alvarez.

De Torres was also promoted to blue belt. "Trench Tech congratulates these fine young athletes and encourages them all to keep striving," said Alvarez.

Iakopo said she took up Brazilian



From left, Brazilian jiu-jitsu Edward Diaz, orange belt Filomenaleonisa Iakopo, black belt Cuki Alvarez, and blue belt Edward De Torres pose after the promotion ceremony at the Trench Tech Gym last Thursday.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

jiu-jitsu because of his father, CNMI Office of Veterans Affairs executive officer Stanley Iakopo.

"He's been doing the martial art for

about 10 years. He asked my brothers and I if we were possibly interested in trying it out," she said.

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Sanchez wins Youth Shoreline Fishing Derby

By JOSHUA SANTOS
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REPORTER

Charlz Sanchez was the winner of Tasi to Table's Youth Shoreline Fishing Derby after reeling in a 1.12-lb tarakitu, or skipjack, last Saturday at Civic Center Beach.

The 15-year-old said his "heart was pounding very hard" as he reeled in the skipjack and said that his catch on Saturday was his biggest fish so far. When asked for



fishing tips he would give to his peers, he said that he is "still a beginner too," and said it is best to stay patient and use good bait. Sanchez was the event's sole participant who caught a fish and pocketed \$300 for his prizewinning fish.

TTT president Gene Weaver said he was pleased with the turnout last Saturday and was very happy to see parents coming out to support their

See SANCHEZ on Page 19



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Fishing derby winner Charlz Sanchez, 15, holds up the 1.12-lb tarakitu, or skipjack, that he caught last Saturday at Civic Center Beach as part of Tasi to Table's Youth Shoreline Fishing Derby.